MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

2 NOVEMBER 1982

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian Offensive -- IRNA announced that an Iranian offensive launched late on 1 November has succeeded in capturing 250 square km of territory, including four border outposts located 75 to 80 km southwest of Dezful and 30 km north of Faqih and bringing oil wells in the Zubaydah region of Iraq into Iranian artillery range. INA claimed that the offensive "failed miserably." Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio asserted that the Iraqi Air Force has made direct hits on Iranian targets and is proving its "complete supremacy" in air battles. Although IRNA reported that an Iraqi aircraft was shot down in southern Iran, INA quoted Iraqi military sources as saying that none of the Iraqi planes had been downed. IRNA stressed that the operation is "solely" aimed at regaining Iranian territory occupied by Iraq.

Maritime War Zone -- An Iraqi military spokesman told INA that Iraq has declared an area in the northern Gulf a maritime war zone and has warned maritime shipping companies that it will not accept responsibility for ships in the area.

Mediation Efforts -- Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i has sent a message to Guinean President Ahmed Sek u Toure, head of the Good Offices Committee, criticizing the committee's latest peace proposals as "nothing new," IRNA revealed. The message asserted that the proposals only encourage further Iraqi aggression. In another IRNA report, the commander of the Iranian Ground Forces claimed that the only way Iran can obtain its rights from Iraq is to continue the war until final victory.

Iran

A Kurdish spokesman in Paris stated that Bukan in East Azarbayjan Province has been recaptured by Kurdish forces following clashes in which 80 Iranian guards were killed, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran reported. The commander of the Iranian Ground Forces asserted that the town is still controlled by government forces, IRNA reported.

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil in Morocco -- After meeting with Moroccan King Hassan II in Rabat, President Amin al-Jumayyil said in a departure statement broadcast by Rabat radio that there was "full coordination" of views between himself and King Hassan on all points under discussion, which included the results of King Hassan's visit to Washington at the head of the Arab League delegation. Al-Jumayyil returned to Beirut early on 2 November, Beirut radio reported. Although KUNA said earlier that Al-Jumayyil would meet with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf during his visit to Morocco, monitored Moroccan sources did not mention any such meeting.

Security Situation -- Druze socialists and Christian Lebanese forces clashed violently east of 'Alayh, causing the closure of the Beirut-Damascus highway, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. The road was subsequently reopened after a cease-fire agreement was reached, the radio said. One Christian militiaman was killed and several other people were injured in the fighting, according to the radio. An Israeli soldier was injured when his unit was caught in crossfire between Christians and Druze, according to an IDF announcement carried by ITIM. The IDF entered several villages to stop the clashes, THE JERUSALEM POST reported.

Two U.S. Marines and two Lebanese civilians were wounded by a car-bomb explosion in southern Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Israeli-Lebanese Differences on Talks -- Israel has expressed absolute opposition to Lebanon's suggestion that Israel negotiate with a Lebanese military committee through

U.S. mediation, Jerusalem radio reported. Noting that Israel insists on involving political representatives of both countries in direct talks, the radio cited an Israeli source close to the negotiations as saying that Morris Draper, U.S. deputy assistant secretary for Near Eastern affairs, appears to be representing President Al-Jumayyil rather than the United States.

Israel

Relations With Syria -- Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Syria has announced its willingness to conclude a nonbelligerence agreement with Israel in exchange for a full Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders, Jerusalem radio reported. This position was expressed by the Syrian representative in the recent Arab League delegation to Washington.

Relations With Egypt -- Israel opened its new hotel in Tabah for a breaking-in period, Jerusalem television reported. Meanwhile, Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali told the Israeli ambassador in Cairo that Israel should not open the hotel, Jerusalem radio noted. Citing AL-AHRAM, MENA reported that Egypt recently recalled its consul in Elat to Cairo as a warning to Israel over the Tabah dispute. In his remarks to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir accused the Egyptians of violating all clauses of the normalization agreement, according to Jerusalem radio.

West Bank -- Renewed disturbances erupted in Ramallah, Nabulus and near Bethlehem to mark the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration, Jerusalem radio reported on 2 November.

Egypt

Air Force Maneuvers -- Although MENA did not list President Husni Mubarak among those attending the air force's live-ammunition maneuvers in the Western Desert, AFP reported that Mubarak was present but left before the end, when a Mirage V fighter crashed. Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah said the maneuvers were "ordinary" and were not intended to convey any "message" to Israel, according to AFP.

Ghali on Negotiations - Commenting on the future of Middle East peace negotiations in a Cairo radio discussion program, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali said Egypt refuses to participate in any negotiations from now on unless the Jordanians and Palestinians also participate in them.

Gulf

The third session of the GCC ministerial council opened in Bahrain to prepare and discuss the agenda for the third GCC summit to be held on 9 November, Manama radio reported. According to WAKH, the GCC foreign ministers approved the agenda and then met in a closed session to discuss "the major issue" on the agenda. The Kuwaiti daily AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM claimed that the GCC summit will postpone endorsing the Gulf security agreement until the issue has been studied further.

Pakistan

Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq described his talks with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as "excellent," Delhi radio reported. Karachi radio reported that the leaders discussed bilateral issues and agreed to establish a joint India-Pakistan commission and to cooperate at the March 1983 nonaligned summit to be held in New Delhi. In an interview given to the BANGKOK POST during a stopover in Thailand en route to Indonesia, the Pakistani leader said "we have broken the ice and are building a favorable environment for South Asia."

PLO

A PLO radio station began what it called an experimental transmission on 1 November. The station, which was broadcast on the frequency normally used by the Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio, signed on with the same opening song and announcement used by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio.

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'ARAFAT ON U.S. POLICY TOWARD PALESTINIAN ISSUE

GF020626 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1810 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Report on interview with PLO's Yasir 'Arafat by Palestinian newspaper FILASTIN ATH-THAWRAH -- date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Do you see any likelihood that the United States will officially recognize the PLO?

[Answer] I am sorry to say that a superpower like the United States ignores the facts of the situation in the Middle East, which it considers the most important region to dominate. Not only that but the United States wants to be the only dominating force in this region to the extent that it is competing with its European allies in this regard and is trying to scorn the region at the same time. I will not speak about the other side, which is the socialist side and the socialist countries.

In this regard, regrettably, a superpower is adopting only one view, that of the enemy of the Arab nation, the Zionist enemy. The United States supplied and is still supplying this enemy with unlimited capabilities on the military, political, economic, financial and diplomatic levels. It has completely adopted Israel and ignored all its interests in the region and the future of these interests. Not only this, but I am asking: Should a country considered to be one of the superpowers be allowed to commit such big mistakes -- which may directly affect mankind -- like what the United States is now doing regarding the Palestinian issue, which is considered the central issue on the international, Arab, Islamic, nonaligned and national liberation movement levels? It has become the No 1 issue, has it not? Should the United States be allowed to deal with this issue in such a vague manner?

I say that the U.S.' handling of the Palestinian issue will affect all U.S. interests in the region sooner or later. Should the U.S. administration be allowed to ignore the international legitimacy and the resolutions regarding [words indistinct] in the 20th century? Will the American people accept these wrong practices resulting from their government's policies?

[Question] Reagan's proposal to hand over the West Bank and Gaza Strip to the Palestinians and the establishment of [word indistinct] there in political association with Jordan means U.S. nonrecognition of a Palestinian state. What is your comment?

[Answer] I want to ask the world and the American people a question. It is: Is President Reagan still sticking to his proposal after the massacre which took place in Sabra and Shatila and after the U.S. lost its word of honor in the streets of Sabra and Shatila? Can he give his word of honor now [words indistinct] the U.S. administration? I had written guarantees. Before you ask me this question, I want to ask you: How can I be sure that this proposal will not be like the guarantees I received in Beirut regarding safety of the camps? The guarantees I received then were also in writing. How can I be sure that this proposal will not share the fate of those guarantees? I have neither expressed a negative nor positive opinion on the plan, but what I have been addressing is its authenticity.

TANJUG INTERVIEWS 'ARAFAT ON PALESTINIAN ISSUES

LD291820 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1040 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Oct (TANJUG) -- Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has given an interview to TANJUG and to Belgrade television. The text of the interview reads:

Question: Comrade 'Arafat, your visit to Belgrade is the first visit you have paid to a country outside the Arab world since the withdrawal from Beirut. Why did you choose Belgrade?

Answer: I decided to make this trip owing to the firm and stable links between Yugoslavia and PLO, owing to the first ties which link the Yugoslav and Palestinian people.

Question: Six years ago you told us in this same room that the tragedy of the Palestinian people in the Tall al-Za'tar refugee camp in Beirut was not likely to be the last one. You were right. This summer we witnessed the Palestinian fighters' heroic struggle against the powerful Israeli army and the massacre of innocent civilians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps. In the wake of all this, what is the political and military situation inside the PLO?

Answer: You see, it was clear to us from the start that a conspiracy was being hatched against us and, I regret to have to say this, this was not Israeli aggression, but Israel-U.S. agression and I am not alone in saying this. It will suffice to recall the interview given by Mr Haig (former U.S. secretary of state) to the paper of LE MONDE, which is the best confirmation of what I am saying, because it fully revealed the role played by the U.S. administration in what happened to the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples during this war.

As I have already said, not only the Israelis but also the most modern U.S. arms were aimed at us. Mr Weinberger also mentioned that he is grateful to the Israeli army for using the most modern U.S. armaments so well. The aim of this aggression and this conspiracy was to destroy the PLO and liquidate the Palestinians and thus also to liquidate the Palestinian cause. They imagined that by means of the gigantic U.S. arsenal of weapons and the vast Israeli army they would finish the whole thing within 2, 3 or at the most 5 days.

You were with us there as the TANJUG correspondent and you were able to see it all for yourself. You saw it with your own eyes. Day in day out, night in night out we were under attack from sea, land and air. At the same time, it is very important to say that we gained a new experience. Small groups of men, well-organized and clearly motivated, are capable of opposing the might of weapons and soldiery. What happened in Beirut is not an experience for the Palestinians alone, but represents an experience and an important lesson which should be studied, such as the role of tanks and armored units in big towns and the way we stood up to them. At one stage 70 tanks were trying to break into the town which, at the same time, was being fier ly shelled by artillery and bombed from the air. They did not succeed.

It is important to say that at the time of the siege of Beirut I was able to see for myself the weakness of the gigantic Israeli army, its weak points and helplessness. It is important to say that despite all the assistance they were receiving they were unable to enter the town as long as we were in it. Their invasion of the town after our departure represents a special kind of confirmation that they were not able to accomplish anything while we were there. This is very important, I must repeat this once more, though it is true that we paid very high price in terms of loss of life; we lost exactly 72,000 civilians and soldiers. In the meantime, 14 Palestinian camps were razed to the ground in the northern and southern parts of the town. At the same time 32 Lebanese villages, 3 towns and Beirut itself were destroyed. This then, will enable you to understand better what we faced and what was done to us.

And here we are, alive and healthy, while they failed in their attempt to liquidate the PLO. In the meantime, our political situation has improved and is becoming better and better. Today we are stronger than we were yesterday. They imagined that we would grow weak because we had to scatter our military potential among various Arab countries.

However, I tell you, bearing in mind the agreements I have just signed while visiting certain Arab countries, these units and our fighters will be rearmed with modern weapons by their host countries. This concerns both the political and military situation and the results of the Arab summit in Fes. Why did U.S. President Reagan come out with his proposals immediately before Fes? He was trying to undermine the meeting, but despite that we achieved very good results, including the Arab plan and Arab unity. This is even more important if you bear in mind what they did to us at the first summit in Fes, when they caused a split between us, causing us great damage. Now we have Arab unity and a plan, which we are offering to the whole world. I feel that the Palestinians have done their best to make such results possible. We succeeded because what happened in Beirut is something very important. The conventional methods with which they tried to corner us as a people and nation failed completely. Our volcano, which came alive in Beirut, will not stop until we have achieved our goal, an independent homeland with Jerusalem as its capital.

Question: We have been able to see that the PLO is well organized not only in Arab countries and the world in general, but also in the occupied territories, in Gaza and in the West Bank.

Answer: This is correct, because what we have here is the "Palestinian phenomenon." As an example, I shall mention that we have 102 bureaus or embassies all over the world, which means twice as many as the Israelis, even more than twice. We also have other organizations, such as workers' trade unions and vocational organizations. We also have a union of medical workers that covers not only the Arab world but also Europe and even the United States. As an example, in the United States alone we have 5,000 lecturers. I am not referring to Palestinian organizations, but saying that 5,000 Palestinians work as lecturers in the United States.

Question: Let us talk a little about peace initiatives. Your recent meetings with King Husayn of Jordan were at the center of world public attention. You stated at the time that all the decisions during the talks would be taken by the PLO leadership and not by one man alone, not even by you. Can you now tell us more about the talks held in Amman?

Answer: It is clear and easy to understand why decisions cannot be taken by one man alone, because we have democracy and collective leadership and everything that has to be decided must follow this democratic road. Our strength lies in this democracy. It is not easy to cultivate democracy in a jungle of weapons, but we have nevertheless been successful in this respect and we are very proud of this.

As for my talks with King Husayn, they were, as I have already stated before, very positive and constructive talks. We discussed everything in detail. He made two proposals: a federation between the Jordanians and Palestinians or a confederation between Palestine and Jordan. We said that we insist not on a federation, but on a confederation of two states: Palestine and Jordan. In this way we are fulfilling our supreme goal.

Question: If we have understood you right, you insist first on your own state, Palestine, and only then on a confederation with Jordan.

Answer: Yes, that is so. That is what I discussed with King Husayn and he accepted it. When I mentioned this to him, he said: "Yes, I accept what the Palestinians are demanding -- their identity." We have not covered this long revolutionary road to give up our identity. The Palestinians are, above all, fighting for their identity.

Question: If one may put it this way, herein lies the fundamental difference between you, who represent the Palestinian people, and what is proposed by U.S. President Reagan.

Answer: Yes, that is so. You have mentioned that we are being offered only some aspects of autonomy. That is the fundamental difference between the Reagan plan and the Arab plan. You see, the Arab plan says: "The Palestinians are entitled to an independent state, the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and Jerusalem is the capital of this state." Only after all this can we form a confederation. I discussed this with His Majesty King Husayn and this fundamentally differs from what U.S. President Reagan is proposing to us. I regret to have to say that President Reagan's plan completely neglects the aspirations of the Palestinian people. We are not fighting to have some kind of self-administration. No, not in the least. This should be clear to all, because there will be no stability and no solution and no peace as long as things of this kind are being offered to the Palestinians. We have a right to self-determination, to a homeland and to an independent state. It is true that I mentioned earlier on that there are some positive elements in President Reagan's proposal.

For instance, he says for the first time that the West Bank and Gaza represent occupied territories and that he does not accept the Israeli annexation of these territories. This is very important. That is why I said that there are positive elements in his plan. A delegation headed by King Hassan of Morocco has left for Washington to discuss President Reagan's proposals with him. These same main points are on the agenda.

Question: After everything that has happened to your people and to you personally, after all the losses you suffered in Beirut, after the meetings you have had in the meantime with King Husayn and after President Reagan's initiative are you a greater optimist today than you were yesterday and will you be an even greater optimist tomorrow?

Answer: But that is obvious. Here we are alive and healthy and who could imagine that this is what we would be after our confrontation with all the might of Israeli-U.S. arms, which we faced eye to eye and on our own! Who could have imagined this? No one! There is no doubt about that. So then, why should we not be optimists? They planned to destroy us within a period of a few hours, as they have already done with some Arabs. Now the picture is completely different.

Question: I know that you love children and that you spend your free time with little Palestinians. When you look at them today, when you watch the youngest among your fighters, do you ask yourself: "Will these children share our fate or be happier than we are, than I, Yasir 'Arafat, am?"

Answer: The aim of our struggle is that these children should no longer suffer. We suffer today because we do not want them to suffer, because we want them to live in peace, to live happy lives, to live free, in their own free native land, and not to have to witness massacres and genocide and renewed destruction. This is the most improtant mission of my generation, because our children have the same right to live as all other children in the world; they too are human being. I am certain, when I address this message to the friendly people of Yugoslavia, which supported us from the start and continues to support us in the achievement of our goals and rights, that our children will live in peace, in the land of peace, in Palestine.

Question: We would like to ask you a personal question. What is the question which Yasir 'Arafat asks himself most often?

Answer: It is difficult to speak about personal matters. That is the law of our revolution. However, I shall nevertheless tell you something. The question I ask myself most frequently is: Is what Yasir 'Arafat doing enough for the welfare of his people, or should I do even more?

I personally think that I should do more, facing, as I am, all the challenges from the imperialist conspiracy, Zionism and the enemy which is striving with all its might to defeat my people. My message to them is that they will not succeed. That is my reply.

Question: To conlcude, have you anything to say that we have not asked you about?

Answer: This is a suitable opportunity to express my gratitude, through you, to our friends, to our close friends, the peoples of Yugoslavia. We can never forget all that they have done and are still doing for us. There is no way we can forget that. During the siege of Beirut I carefully followed all that was taking place in your country, the great manifestations of support for us. And when was that taking place? During the summer vacation. To somebody else that may be an insignificant detail, but to me it is not. That was something that touched my heart. We shall never forget it. Therefore, thank you from my heart.

'ARAFAT RETURNS TO TUNIS AFTER EAST BLOC VISITS

NC311045 Paris AFP in English 1021 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Tunis, Oct 31 (AFP) -- Palestine Liberation Organisation Chairman Yasir 'Arafat returned here last night after visiting Yugoslavia and Romania for talks on the Middle East situation.

PLO official Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman, who accompanied the PLO leader on his tour, said the visits were part of the organisation's political and diplomatic offensive promoting the Palestinian cause at an international level.

The discussions focused on the sitaution in Lebanon and the exodus of Palestinian guerrillas from Beirut, as well as PLO relations with the Eastern bloc countries.

Mr 'Abd ar-Rahman said that a full meeting of the Palestinian National Council could be held within two months, and added that PLO leaders would meet tomorrow to discuss the date.

'ARAFAT CHAIRS ORGANIZATION COUNCIL MEETING

GF020842 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, presided over a meeting of the Palestinian popular central organizations council at Palestinian headquarters in Tunis yesterday. The meeting was attended by Brothers Abu al-Lutf and Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, members of the PLO Executive Committee.

During the meeting, which lasted until the late hours of the night, the political stand on the popular level and the organizational level of the popular associations was discussed in order to approve the plan of [words indistinct] during the upcoming phase. The session of the Palestinian popular organizations council which started this morning will last until Monday. [sentence as heard]

PLO REPORTEDLY AGREES TO HUSAYN'S REPRESENTATION

GF020854 Doha QNA in Arabic 0803 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 2 Nov (QNA) -- The newspaper AL-KHALIJ today quoted sources it described as informed, as saying that the official Palestinian trend within the framework of the PLO calling for authorizing King Husayn to talk on behalf of the Palestinians has started to take shape in the past few weeks.

These sources quoted a Palestinian person close to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, as saying that the Palestine National Council will not convene unless majority approval of this official Palestinian stand is guaranteed. This person said the suggested increase of the number of the Palestine National Council's members during the council's next session with members from Jordan, the Gulf and occupied territory in addition to its present members will make the authorization of King Husayn to talk on behalf of the Palestinians a foregone conclusion.

KUNA: 'ARAFAT VISIT TO MOSCOW POSTPONED

LD011604 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Moscow, 1 Nov (KUNA) -- It was reported here today that the set visit by PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to the Soviet Union has been postponed until after the ceremonies of the Bolshevik Revolution on the 7th and 9th of this month.

Arab diplomatic sources have stated that the reason for postponing the visit is due to 'Arafat's preoccupation in plenary meetings expected to be held by the leaders of the Palestinian Resistance movement in Tunis in the coming [words indistinct]. They added that 'Arafat is expected to arrive here on the 9th or the 10th of this month.

The sources stated that the Palestinian leader will discuss with Soviet leaders "the new situation after the departure of the Palestinian Resistance from Beirut, the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the Israeli military moves in the Al-Biqa' Valley" of Lebanon. They also said they will discuss "means for deterring Zionist agression." The sources gave no other details.

AL-JUMAYYIL, KHALAF TO HOLD TALKS IN RABAT

LD011406 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Rabat, 1 Nov (KUNA) -- Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived here today on a short visit -- this first to an Arab country since he assumed power on 23 September.

The first high-level Lebanese-Palestinian meeting since the evacuation of the Palestinian Resistance forces from Beirut toward the end of August will take place during this visit, as al-Jumayyil will meet Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad].

During this meeting, the Palestinian and Lebanese sides are expected to discuss the future of their relations after the withdrawal of the PLO from the Lebanese capital. It is also expected that the Lebanese president will put forward his government's demands for the withdrawal of the remaining Palestinian Resistance forces from Al-Biqa's Valley and north Lebanon within its demands for the comprehensive withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

It is expected that the Palestinian side will raise the issue of the nature of the treatment received by Palestinian civilians at the hands of the Lebanese authorities in Beirut, in addition to their demands regarding information, a political presence, and the social care institutes which they have established in Beirut since 1970.

Khalaf arrived here today for this purpose.

A Palestinian source here said that Abu Iyad was chosen to meet Al-Jumayyil "because of the long-standing good relations between them."

The Palestinians refuse to withdraw from Al-Biqa' and the north before withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanon. They say that agreements have to be reached with the Lebanese Government regarding the Palestinian presence in Lebanon.

KHALIL AL-WAZIR ON ARAB, U.S. INITIATIVES

JN2920l2 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1755 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, by Monte Carlo radio correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris, carried in the "It Happened Tomorrow" weekly program -- date, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] What is your impression of the talks held in Washington by the Arab seven-member committee delegation? What is the Arab situation now with regard to a political solution? What is your opinion about this?

[Answer] This is the first time that an Arab committee from seven states has gone to the White House and discussed with the U.S. administration the Arab plan adopted by the recent Fes summit. Before this Arab move the hard U.S. message facing all the Arabs was that the United States still refused to receive a PLO representative even within an Arab delegation. Due to certain circumstances the committee conceded this out of the desire to avoid creating obstacles to the talks.

In the Arab opinion what is important is that the Arabs should explain their plan to the U.S. administration. The committee explained the Arab peace plan during these talks and the U.S. President and U.S. officials asked the Arab delegation a number of questions about this plan, particularly about the meaning of the seventh article of the plan. Afterward President Reagan briefed the delegation on his plan and ideas and explained the extent of his commitment to this plan. The Arab delegation asked President Reagan and his secretary of state many questions about the hidden points [khafaya] and aims of the plan. In his dialogue with the Arab delegation President Reagan strongly refused to recognize the PLO or hold any dialogue with it unless the PLO recognized Resolutions 242 and 338. He told the delegation that if the PLO announced its approval of Resolution 242 in the morning he would receive it in the White House that evening. He emphasized that his initiative enjoys U.S. unanimity.

However, the Arab reply was that the Fes summit conference had said yes to the Palestinians and that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. It also stressed the Palestinians' right to establish their independent state. Although PLO Representative Brother Khalid al-Hasan, who was in Washington, did not attend these meetings, the U.S. press described him as having been present in all these meetings. The meetings consisted of exchanges of ideas and viewpoints as well as discussions. On our part, we believe that the U.S. stand has not changed.

[Question] Much has been said recently about an important initiative by the Resistance in the near future, particularly after the forthcoming meetings in the Tunisian capital. Many wonder if this initiative will deal with a mutual recognition of Israel or the amendment of the Palestinian charter. What are your expectations in this regard?

[Answer] The meetings to be held during the next few days on the various leading levels and in an intensified manner in Tunis are part of the activities required by the stage after the battle of Lebanon and Beirut. Within this framework there will be a continued study of the battle and the lessons learned from it. The meetings will also deal with the rectification of some defects which emerged during the battle, in addition to giving more attention to the reorganization of our forces in a stronger and more cohesive manner so that these forces will cope with the new missions in light of the new circumstances and places where these forces are stationed. Some people are now deeply concerned about the difficult situation caused by the deployment of the forces in 10 different places. We are confident that the reply of the revolutionary will, which knows what it wants, is that what some think to be a point of weakness can be turned by this struggling will into a point of strength and a new weapon which we know how to use. This is one of the main subjects to be discussed during the meetings. Military councils' meetings will also be held there.

During these meetings there will also be discussions about the lines of work and political movement in light of the moves and tours of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and the leading delegations of the Arab and foreign countries as well as in light of the results of the visits paid to Jordan and the outcome of the seven-member committee contacts, in addition to other moves and visits. All these matters will be presented to the Palestinian leadership for assessment and drawing conclusions. Moreover, there will be a study of the trends pertaining to the convocation of a Palestinian popular conference.

The Palestine National Council [PNC] will take part in meetings to fix the venue and date of the conference, which is expected to be held in a European state. This idea stems from the need to give momentum to our people's will and so that a large number of people, exceeding the number of the PNC members, can take part in this conference. This will involve about 1,500 persons who will better represent the various areas where the Palestinians are present. It will be held in a European state in order to foil the Zionist enemy's attempts to prevent the Palestinians in the occupied territories from attending. It will be held before the world and if our brothers in the occupied territories find it impossible to attend it in Europe, it will be held in the same place as the PNC.

The Tunis meetings will also study the political trends in the forthcoming stage in light of all that is surrounding us. As for the amendment of the charter or a discussion of mutual recognition, there will be nothing new in these meetings. There is no need to even discuss these issues because we are confident of our sound stands and we must not make concessions as the PLO or as a people.

[Question] Let us turn to Lebanon and the presence of the Resistance in Lebanon. My question is specifically about withdrawal. What is your attitude toward withdrawal from Al-Biqa' and the north? How do you view relations between you and the legitimate Lebanese authority?

[Answer] In fact, no one has yet discussed with us the subject of withdrawal from the north and Al-Biqa'. No Lebanese, Arab or international side has discussed it with us. Therefore, we say that it is not yet time to talk about our conditions. However, we would like to emphasize several facts. First, the Palestinian Revolution cares greatly about Lebanon's unity and safety and its people's interests. Second, talk about a Palestinian or Arab Deterrent Forces' withdrawal when the Israeli occupation continues to exist needs consideration. All our Arab nation and Lebanon should give priority to the issue of the Israeli occupation.

[Question] Let us now talk about Jordan and the Jordanian role, particularly about the recent talks between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn -- talks in which you yourself took part. What has happened in Jordan and what is your attitude toward the proposals for a confederation or federation?

[Answer] There has been much talk and many ideas about Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Amman at the head of a PLO delegation. Some say that Abu 'Ammar has given a Palestinian authorization. Of course, this is untrue because no one has asked us for such an authorization. It is well-known that the PLO is recognized by all the Arab nation as the Palestinian people's legitimate and sole representative. King Husayn previously announced a plan for a confederation or federation. He talked about this and left it for discussion by the two peoples. This plan also gave importance to the visit and was discussed in detail.

Another issue was bolstering the steadfastness of our people in the occupied territories. Palestinian-Jordanian relations were discussed from all political, military and realistic points of view. This meeting was held in a positive spirit, these issues were discussed and agreement was reached to form followup committees. The meeting was facilitated by the amnesty granted to those taking part in the September events and the freedom of movement given to those who left the Jordanian Army and joined the Palestinian Revolution that September. They now have complete freedom to move, visit their kinfolk and do their business without problems or obstacles.

Moreover, the talks led to the reinforcement of the Badr force and other military forces in Jordan in terms of number and equipment. All these were results of Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit.

We also want to underline a basic fact: When the Palestinian Revolution and the PLO try to strengthen their relations with Jordan, they do so based on the crystal-clear policy that we not prefer one Arab axis over another. We, as a Palestinian cause, struggle and revolution, need everyone; we need Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, the Gulf and every single Arab effort. As for the transfer of forces, as I said earlier, Jordan is prepared to increase the number of our forces there. We will take the appropriate measures that serve the existence of our revolution and forces. If there is a need to transfer forces from this point or to bring forces from other points, we will do so according to a plan we are studying and preparing. The truth remains that there is a [Jordanian] readiness to increase the number of our forces there and we will act according to this truth.

[Question] My last question is about the relations with Syria.

[Answer] Let me first talk about the relations between Fatah and the Syrian brothers. The first point is that our relations are historical. These relations have roots extending deep in history, going back to the relations between our Palestinian and Syrian peoples during their revolutions in the days of the mandate, the setback and afterwards. When Fatah was created and started to prepare for military action, we came to Syria. This was in 1964, at a time when we were not able to operate publicly in the Arab countries (?except for Algeria).

We have proceeded together from 1964 until now. During this march of struggle we faced several differences of opinion. We used to say that such a thing is normal and happens even among brothers in the same house. We made mistakes and they made mistakes. Sometimes we were hard on them and vice versa. Things even reached the point of clash in Lebanon in 1975 and 1976. Even during those hard moments we used to say: This situation must end, we have to reunite [words indistinct] this black stage of our Arab nation so we can solve these issues with a joint desire and understanding. Indeed, with our joint desire and power we overcame that black stage, which was followed by a new one with the presence of the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon.

This stage witnessed more cooperation and coordination on both the political and military levels. We in Fatah and in all the PLO factions are very keen to continue and futther strengthen our relations with Syria. This is dictated by our responsibilities toward the joint battle against our enemy and the confrontation of the joint danger we are facing and the fate we are sharing.

As for the present, the brothers in Syria have some misconceptions regarding Brother Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan. We believe that there has been some kind of premature judgment. We also believe that in light of the confidence between us there should have been another way of analyzing and (?assessing) the situation on their account. We in the Palestinian Revolution are very keen to protect our cause and remain faithful to the sacrifices and pain of our people who have offered hundreds of thousands of martyrs. No one, regardless of his rank, can relinquish the history and struggle of his people. We have all devoted and dedicated our lives for the sake of this cause, so how can anyone relinquish this cause?

Therefore, no matter whether we hear a word from this, a criticism from that, or a press statement here or there on both sides we still say that the cause is more important than all of us.

We have to be aware of the importance of a united stand that serves the joint cause of both sides and overcomes all obstacles so we can restore the fraternity, the same feelings, pan-Arab fate and visions and in order to discuss things together and assess the steps we have to take together. Only by doing so and by having strong mutual confidence can we continue together and heal all the wounds, if there are any, and also conquer all the obstacles we may face together. We are confident that we understand everything that has happened and that we have experienced it more than once. Hence, with the common awareness of both sides we have to proceed and resume the dialogue and see how we can face the danger and prepare together for the coming battle which is knocking on our doors day after day.

This is how we look at the relations between us. Hence, our brothers everywhere must not be worried by what they hear on the radio. We are confident that the awareness of the leaders, officials and the cadres is greater than all these unimportant gaps.

AS-SA'IQAH REJECTS WITHDRAWAL FROM LEBANON

JN011807 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The pro-Syrian Palestinian organization, As-Sa'iqah, has rejected any possibility of withdrawal by the Palestinian fighters from Lebanese territory and has also rejected any dialogue with Israeli parties. This came in a statement As-Sa'iqah issued today. The statement says that the presence of the instruments of the armed Palestinian Revolution on Lebanese territory must continue and with all means and that the issue of retreat or withdrawal is not a subject for discussion.

The As-Sa'iqah spokesman also categorically rejected any possible dialogue with any Zionist Israeli party, whether it is the Labor Party or another parties.

The statement also condemned the initiatives and proposals by some Palestinian quarters made in the name of the PLO. The statement added that these are contrary to Palestinian unanimity and the resolutions of the Palestine National Council.

As-Sa'iqah also condemned any contacts or meeting between any Palestinian party and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and also condemned King Husayn's efforts to obtain any authorization to speak on behalf of the PLO. The statement stressed that As-Sa'iqah is ready to make sacrifices for the sake of national unity and that its commitment to national councils and the objectives of the Palestinian national struggle are great.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC TRADE MINISTERS MEET IN RIYADH 30-31 OCT

GF300632 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] The first meeting of GCC trade ministers will be held at the headquarters of the GCC Secretariat. The 2-day conference will discuss two working papers submitted by the kingdom regarding the executive lines of some parts of the economic agreement and the construction of a joint network for reviewing the work of the council countries. The conference will also discuss the report prepared by Trade Ministry under secretaries during their meeting In Kuwait in August.

Commerce Minister Dr Sulayman al-'Abd al-'Aziz as-Sulayyim expressed the hope that the first GCC trade ministers conference will achieve results in the interest of all council countries. He affirmed that the conference is a part of the GCC activity in preparation to the third Gulf summit due to be held on 9 November in Bahrain. He said that the discussions of the ministers will concentrate on the points that will eliminate hindrances in trade between council countries, unify procedures, descriptions of goods and actions against international economic blocs and put the GCC countries in a joint bargaining position regarding imports and exports.

Qatari Commerce Minister Nasir ibn Khalid al Thani stated that the trade ministers conference is one of the important ministerial meetings to be held within the framework of the united agreement, which expresses the aim of the area's peoples to achieve coordination, cooperation, unification and liaison with each other in all arenas.

Further Details

GF310918 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0600 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Riyadh, 30 Oct (WAKH) -- The GCC trade ministers concluded here tonight the meetings of their first conference which started this morning.

In a press conference following the conclusion of the conference, Dr Muhammad al-Quways, assistant general secretary for economic affairs of the GCC, stated that it has been decided to hold the next conference of the trade ministers in Kuwait next October.

He said that the conference agreed upon the construction of a united network for specifications and measures for the Gulf countries in accordance with the recommendation of the technical committee formed to discuss (this) issue and which proposed to convert the Saudi Arabian committee for specifications and measures to a Gulf committee. The special measures regarding the committee's future relations with similar currently existing Gulf networks will be discussed later.

Dr al-Quways added that the ministers of trade reviewed the report of the Trade Ministry under secretaries regarding their meeting in Kuwait on 25 May, the resolutions of the economic cooperation committee and the relation of the countries of the council with some international organizations in addition to the role of the trade chambers and private sector in executing the united economic agreement.

Dr al-Quways explained that the GCC trade ministers agreed to the [words indistinct] the trade ministers in the GCC countries in their last meetings in At-Ta'if on the definition of the fields to establish qualified relations between GCC and various economic groups.

Dr al-Quways stated that during their conference the GCC trade ministers agreed to unite the positions of GCC countries in international organizations, conferences and committees and participate as one unit in provincial and international exhibitions.

The conference also decided to increase cooperation between council countries and various trade chambers to stop any cases of piracy.

At the conclusion of the press conference Dr al-Quways announced that the trade ministers agreed to form a committee to design the united Gulf policy in the fields of food and strategic storage and establish a rule for the exchange of these provisions in case of emergencies. The conference proposed the formation of a ministerial trade committee to periodically convene in order to organize trade exchanges, coordinate import and export policies, supervise strategic food storage and work to unite the trade rules that allow free trade exchange.

He added that it has been decided to form a Gulf committee to negotiate on behalf of the council regarding the purchase of important supplies and commission the General Secretariat of the council to carry out the necessary studies regarding the economic relations between imports and exports and the rules of trade exchange in the council countries.

GCC MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OPENS IN BAHRAIN

GF011557 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The third session of the GCC ministerial council began at the Bahrain Sheraton at 1715 todav. The GCC foreign ministers; 'Abdalla Bisharah, GCC secretary general; 'Abdallah al-Quways, GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs; and Ibrahim as-Subhi, GCC assistant secretary general for political affairs, attended. The ministerial council will prepare and discuss the agenda for the third GCC summit, scheduled to be held in Bahrain on 9 November 1982, and will also discuss political, security and economic issues.

Ambassadors of the GCC countries, local jounalists, representatives of Arab and foreign news agencies and the Arab international press were present.

Bahraini Minister's Address

GF011709 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Speech by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah at the opening session of the GCC ministerial council at the Manama Sheraton on 1 November -- recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brothers, Your Highnesses and Excellencies: I welcome you in your country Bahrain with pride and gratitude and in the spirit of brotherhood and close relations that bind us. I welcome you among your kinsmen in our branch of the same Gulf family, which is always looking forward to embracing and welcoming you in an expression of the warm sentiments the Bahraini people harbor toward their brothers in our beloved Gulf.

I have the great honor to convey to you the greetings of His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah and his good wishes that you will succeed in your efforts, coupled with hope and confidence in achieving a bright future for the integrated work among us, to protect our resources and to strengthen our capabilities so that our region can take a course of clear action that is effective in its Arab and international sphere.

Brothers, we are today embarking on an important stage in our good march which began with the extablishment of the GCC at the Abu Dhabi meeting [in November 1980]. This march proceeded with strength and confidence with the aim of safeguarding our region's independence and security and the prosperity of its people, and pushing it toward a new course, following the creation of an organizational structure for the GCC at the first summit.

The GCC's inception was in response to a common historic and emotional reality and a result of past cooperation and efforts which led to this inevitable step -- a step that has brought the Arab people of the Gulf to the threshold of a new history that portends progress and prosperity for every individual who lives on this good land. The GCC's flowing fountain extends to its Arab nation and to the entire world. It has emerged harmonious in its ideas and stands -- ideas and stands that have made it a distinctive entity.

The structures and institutions of our council were evolved during the second GCC summit in Riyadh in various political, economic, social and security fields through the tasks accomplished by the ministerial committees -- tasks which consolidated further coordination and means of integration and deepened the ties among GCC countries on firm bases and with great potential inspired by the Gulf economic structure. The ministerial committees crystallized these tasks through a well-studied practical program that takes into consideration the interests of our countries and the differences in our capabilities in a manner that leads to the exploitation of these differences and capabilities in achieving the integration to which we aspire.

The purpose of our third meeting is to crystallize last year's efforts to coordinate in diversified fields and to crystallize the conclusions of the various committees as a prelude to submitting them to the leaders of our countries, so as to adopt decisions that define our vision of the future, expand the sphere of cooperation and accomplish further achievements that will give a greater impetus to our cohesion and will have important consequences for the march of our people in the Gulf.

Brothers, as we welcome this bright day we look forward with optimism to the meeting of their majesties and highnesses, the leaders of our countries, to begin a new stage in our march along the road of growth and prosperity. As long as our efforts are united and our action springs from common interests, we shall surmount all obstacles and overcome all the challenges that face us as a united, broad, solid and strong front. History is the judge and will have its say on this great event in this beloved part of our great Arab homeland -- history will have its say through our efforts, which reflect the common desire to implement our actions and realize our hopes.

May God grant us success and guarantee for our country security, stability, development and prosperity and for our Arab nation and our Muslim community pride and fortitude.

May peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Report on First Session

GF011952 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1915 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Manama, 1 Nov (WAKH) -- The foreign ministers of the GCC member states this evening concluded the first closed session of their meetings to prepare for the third Gulf summit, to be held in Manama on 9 November.

The conference sources informed WAKH that the foreign ministers approved their agenda and listened to a report by the secretary general of the GCC, 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah.

The foreign ministers of the council's states began a private closed meeting in a wing of the Sheraton Hote. The meeting, chaired by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak, will follow up and discuss the major issues listed on the agenda.

Meetings Resume

GF020806 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0740 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Manama, 2 Nov (WAKH) -- The six GCC foreign ministers resumed their conference in Manama this morning in a second closed session in order to review the issues listed on the agenda of their conference which preludes the third GCC summit conference.

It has been learned from the conference sources that during this session the foreign ministers will resume discussion of the political and economic issues listed on the agenda, which was approved during the first closed working session that was held yesterday and ended early this morning.

The GCC foreign ministers conference began in Manama yesterday and is expected to last until Wednesday.

GCC MAY POSTPONE ENDORSEMENT OF SECURITY ACCORD

GF012009 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 1 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Manama -- AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM has learned that the GCC summit will postpone endorsing the Gulf security agreement and that everyone agrees on further study of this agreement so as to suit the circumstances of the region's states.

KUWAIT

HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

LD311600 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Oct (KUNA) -- Hungarian President Pal Losonczi arrived here today on an official visit to Kuwait which will last 4 days.

At the head of those welcoming him at the airport was Kuwait Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, who will hold talks with Losonczi that are expected to deal with bilateral relations and political issues of mutual concern.

Losonczi's visit comes in return for the visit paid by Shaykh Jabir to Budapest last September, within a tour which included three other communist countries -- Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria -- in addition to Turkey.

Losonczi is the second leader of a communist country to visit Kuwait this month, after East German President Erich Honecker.

A third communist leader who visited Kuwait last March was Bulgarian President Todor Zhivkov.

An official delegation, including the finance minister, deputy minister, the minister of foreign trade and the deputy head of the Government Information Bureau, in addition to some experts, is accompanying the Hungarian president.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah is expected to meet the Hungarian president later this evening.

Meets With Amir

LD020954 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0913 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 2 Nov (KUNA) -- Visiting Hungarian President Pal Losonczi held a meeting here today with Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. It has been announced that during the meeting bilateral relations, international conditions and the Middle East crisis were discussed.

Shaykh Khalid al-Ahmad as-Sabah, minister for the affairs of the amir's court [title as received], has stated that the talks "concentrated on bilateral relations between the two friendly countries in various spheres, and they also dealt with the international situation in general and the issues of the Middle East region in particular."

Shaykh Khalid has described the atmosphere which prevailed at the talks as "a cordial atmosphere marked by understanding and a spirit of friendship."

President Losonczi is to end his visit to Kuwait tomorrow. A joint Kuwaiti-Hungarian statement is expected to be issued at the end of the visit.

SHAYKH SABAH SPEAKS BEFORE LEAVING FOR MANAMA

LD011210 Kuwait KUNA in English 1028 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 1 (KUNA) -- Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad left for Manama to participate in the Gulf Cooperation Council foreign ministers' meeting due to open late Monday.

Prior to his departure Shaykh Sabah said the meeting will work out the agenda of the forthcoming GCC summit conference to be held in the Bahraini capital November 9.

Shaykh Sabah indicated the meeting will review reports prepared by the council's General Secretariat and the outcome of the various ministerial meetings held subsequent to the conclusion of the second GCC summit in Riyadh November last year.

The deputy premier noted that Kuwait has no special working paper to submit to the meeting but that it welcomes the opportunity to study the working papers of other brother countries if there are any to be presented and if they aim at the realization of security and stability of the region and the interest of its peoples.

Shaykh Sabah noted that no official contacts regarding an expected attendance of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to the forthcoming GCC summit were established and stressed he has not, until now, heard any mention of the subject.

Referring to the successful outcome of a ministerial South Yemeni-Omani meeting held here last week during which an agreement to normalize relations between the two countries was signed, Shaykh Sabah affirmed it is a great pleasure for [word indistinct] in the [word indistinct] to witness the warm reconciliation of two Arab countries after 16 years of enmity.

This, he furthermore added, is a good sign and serves to maintain stability in the region, to keep it free from foreign influence and to help it solve its problems on its own, without having to refer to others.

Hoping the agreement reached would positively affect both Arab states and [words indistinct] and peoples of the region as whole, Shaykh Sabah maintained it will be reviewed by both the ministerial meeting and the GCC summit.

The deputy premier was accompanied by an official Kuwaiti delegation comprising the foreign ministers office director, Sulayman Majid ash-Shahin, Secretary General of the Arab Gulf States Cooperation Committee Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad, and Muhammad al-Awadi from the Foreign Ministry.

He was seen off at the airport by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Rashid ar-Rashid, Information Ministry Undersecretary Nassir Muhammad al-Ahmad, the Bahraini ambassador to Kuwait and senior officials at both ministries.

ADVISER TO AMIR ON CALL TO BOYCOTT U.S.

GF011143 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 1 Nov 82 p 4

[Text] An advisor to H.H. the amir of Kuwait lashed out on Saturday at Arab regimes for their equivocal stands.

The advisor, 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, was speaking at a seminar organized by the women's cultural and social society under the title the "Impact of the Arab Boycott on American Economy."

Al-'Atiqi who is also a former oil and finance minister, said "How can we demand Arab citizens to boycott their simplest needs because they are made in the US while Arab armies are wholly dependent on American-made arms."

"Before calling for such a boycott, we have to provide the alternatives," Al-'Atiqi said, adding that in Kuwait "we distill seawater using foreign machines without which we would have no fresh water to drink.

Liability

The advisor charged that only Kuwait together with other Gulf states has honestly abided by the rules of the Arab boycott regulations against the Jewish state and all foreign companies contributing to its economy growth.

The "iron-clad boycott" is seemingly so, but in fact is violated daily by certain Arabs, he said and added that the main reason for such violation is needed.

Al-'Atiqi, however, referred in this respect to the Indian leader Gandhi who did not think of food, clothes or even medicine when he decided to launch a nation-wide boycott of British-made goods until he was victorious.

"We should prepare ourselves and the alternatives prior to a wide-scale boycott of basic necessities which we do not produce," the Kuwait official cautioned and pointed out that only indispensible products should be compensated and not perfumes or paper tissues.

"How can we boycott anything or anyone while in the eyes of the whole world we are a liability more than as asset", the official said, adding that Arab leaders are responsible for such conditions because they did not attempt to improve them.

The former minister mentioned in this respect an Arab trend started in 1973 for initiating collective investment such as the pharmaceutical company, joint corporations for exploting mines and animal wealth and other financial investment ventures but highlighted that all those projects were doomed by political obstinacies.

Divided

Al-'Atiqi then wondered "how can we expect anything from the Arab peoples under the current circumstances of constant oppression." He regretfully noted that on the other hand the Israelis enjoy freedom of opinion to extend of criticizing their ruler and even degrading him.

In the Arab world individualistic and partisan regimes assume full power and do not permit any sort of opposition and view the majority of their peoples as "mobs" who have to suffer imprisonment, death or censure if they dare talk.

"How can we expect a victory under such conditions," the advisor questioned and added that the world at large is not taking us seriously because we are divided into two groups, one leaning East and the other West and each is not loyal to his choice.

"Yet, both camps deal with us only for the purpose of dividing and exploiting areas of influence," Al-'Atiqi emphasized.

The former oil minister reminded the audience of previous Arab summits particularly those in 1967 and 1973 which were mainly designed to impose an oil embargo on the West.

The Kuwaiti official said that those who strongly defended the measure were in fact using the affair as political propaganda.

Pioneer

In 1973 Kuwait was the pioneer in calling for a total ban on Arab oil supplies, Al-'Atiqi said and disclosed that an Arab country refused to attend meetings of the OAPEC to discuss the subject.

The conference was therefore called for under the name of Arab oil ministers, but what was really sorrowful was the attitude of another Arab country which did not maintain Arab unanimity and continued its production while in the open it was a vehement advocate of oil embargo, he said.

Looking at the other side of the coin, the Westerners hurried to find other oil exporters, approved the transfer of any surplus in any of their countries to the needy and conducted extensive research programs to ensure other energy alternative, Al-'Atiqi said, adding that "the time will come when we beg them to import our oil at the price they wish."

The amiri advisor attacked French President Francois Mitterrand saying that as soon as he assumed presidency "he visited Israel to relay his loyalty and respect to its leaders" and added "did we boycott French perfumes just to express our anger." Al-'Atiqi asserted at the conclusion of his speech that Kuwait is the only Arab country which has a constitution and an elected parliament.

IRAN'S 'EXPLOITATION' OF RELIGION PROTESTED

LD301318 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1215 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] Kuwait, 30 Oct (KUNA) -- Kuwait protested officially to Iran today over the latter's information campaigns against it. The Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry under secretary, Rashid ar-Rashid, summoned Iranian Ambassador 'Ali Shams-Ardakani and conveyed Kuwait's protest to him.

Afterwards, Ar-Rashid said that he told the Iranian ambassador that Kuwait "cannot permit the exploitation of religious occasions to create unrest and political feuds among the citizens."

Ar-Rashid was referring to the Iranian information campaigns against the Kuwaiti authorities which said that these authorities had recently arrested an Iranian citizen residing in Kuwait.

Ar-Rashid said that he also told the Iranian ambassador that "while Kuwait wants to maintain normal and cordial relations with Iran, it cannot accept anything that could harm the security of the citizens in any form, and that traditions and religious rites should be respected, as they convey noble meanings which should not be exploited for political ends."

The Kuwaiti security authorities, it is recalled, arrested a number of people who infiltrated the ranks of Shi'ites celebrating the 'Ashura [anniversary of Husayn ibn 'Ali's martyrdom at Karbala'] to create unrest.

Ar-Rashid said that "some of those remanded in custody will be investigated routinely and released once it is established they had not been involved in any act detrimental to security."

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI-BRAZILIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

LD011420 Riyadh SPA in English 1233 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Jidda, Nov 1 (SPA) -- Brazil today declared its full support for a unified Arab peace plan endorsed by the Arab Fes summit and condemned Israel's "blatant" invasion of Lebanon.

A joint communique issued here at the end of a three-day visit by Brazilian Foreign Affairs Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro to Saudi Arabia said the Brazilian minister had reiterated that no peace and stability could be achieved in the Middle East unless Israel withdraws from all Arab lands occupied since 1967 and the Palestinian people excercised their full rights under the leadership of the PLO, including the establishment of an independent state.

The communique said the kingdom and Brazil had agreed to continue contacts at all levels to boost cooperation between them, and expressed satisfaction with the development of bilateral relations.

It added that King Fahd had accepted an invitation from President Jaoa Baptista Figueiredo to visit Brazil at a date to be fixed later.

The communique said the talks covered a number of political and economic issues of joint interest in the light of changes that took place since Prince Saud al-Faysal's latest visit to Brazil.

The communique said the two ministers decided to maintain consultations between the two sides on various levels.

The Brazilian minister held separate talks with Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, it added.

It said the Brazilian minister's visit helped in consolidating the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

YAR

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER RETURNS FROM UN

GF300936 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Summary] Brother 'Ali Lutfi al-Thawr, minister of foreign affairs and member of the Permanent Committee, returned to San'a' today after heading our country's delegation to 37th session of the UN General Assembly, where he delivered a speech on our country's position on national and current international issues.

He met a number of Arab and foreign leaders and discussed bilateral cooperation with them. He held talks in Washington with U.S. officials on the Middle East situation and current developments, particularly developments concerning Palestine and the U.S. stance toward it.

He also met with Yemeni expatriates in the Unites States and conveyed the greetings of 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, the president and general secretary of the General People's Congress. He briefed them on developments in our country.

MUBARAK ATTENDS MANEUVERS; ABU GHAZALAH COMMENTS

NC011721 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Wadi An-Natrun, Egypt, Nov 1 (AFP) -- A French-built Mirage V jet fighter crashed in the Western Egyptian Desert today during ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the Egyptian Air Force, unofficial sources said.

The pilot ejected safely, according to unconfirmed reports.

President Husni Mubarak, who commanded the air force during the 1973 Middle East war, was present during live ammunition manoeuvres, but was said to have left shortly before the finish, when the plane reportedly crashed.

Abu Ghazalah, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, said today's manoeuvers were "ordinary," and not intended to convey a "message" to Israel. He refused to comment on Mr Mubarak's absence at the end of the ceremonies.

Egyptian military equipment from the United States, the Soviet Union, France, China and Canada participated in the manoeuvers, including the U.S.-built F-16 jet fighter, of which Egypt ordered 40 last year.

Further on Maneuvers

NC011852 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1558 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Wadi An-Natrun, 1 Nov (MENA) -- The Egyptian Air Force today conducted its largest live-ammunition air maneuver this year. Some 135 combat aircraft, comprising 11 kinds of fighters, multitask aircraft, fighter bombers, bombers, helicopters and air transport aircraft, participated.

Attending the maneuver, which was conducted in the Wadi An-Natrun area of the Western Desert, were Dr Sufi Abu Talib, People's Assembly speaker, Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Consultative Council speaker; Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; and five Arab military delegations from the UAE, Iraq, Jordan, the Sultanate of Oman, and Sudan which came to attend the golden jubilee of the Egyptian Air Force. Also in attendance were Lt Gen 'Abd Rabb an-Nabi Hafiz, armed forces chief of staff; Vice Adm Muhammad 'Ali Muhammad, naval forces commander; Lt Gen Sayyid Hamdi, air defense commander; Maj Gen Pilot Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi, air force commander; and a number of senior armed forces officers, foreign military attaches in Cairo and the members of the Defense and National Mobilization Committee of the People's Assembly.

Taking part in the maneuver for the first time in Egypt was the modern tactical aircraft the Alfa jet, which was completely assembled in Egypt and of which 10 percent of its parts were manufactured in Egypt in cooperation with France. The modern U.S. F-16 fighter aircraft and Chinook helicopters also participated. The most modern U.S. ground-to-air missile, the Maverick, which is guided by television from a Phantom aircraft and which Egypt recently obtained, was used in the maneuver.

The Canadian-made air transport Buffalo aircraft carried out a unique demonstration in an airborne landing operation. It landed on an uncleared area at the maneuver site, unlike all other aircraft which need paved runways for takeoff and landing.

The maneuver demonstrated the air force's competence in preparing a suitable aerial situation for the main branches of the armed forces to carry out their tasks in a battle involving combined weapons by ensuring tactical air control in the theater of operations and by weakening hostile aircraft assembly and air defenses. This is aimed at giving our land forces the chance to advance and isolate the battlefield by dropping and landing special forces in areas that would control the battlefield in order to hinder the advance of tactical enemy reserves and paralyze these reserve forces with concentrated air strikes.

The maneuver began with a flight by a formation of Gazelle helicopters carrying Egyptian and air force flags. Then Mirage-V aircraft carried out direct reconnaisance sorties of the operations area and the positions and concentrations of the enemy forces. F-7 aircraft, which are a PRC development of the Soviet MiG-21, carried out aerial protection of the fighter bombers and bombers, which conducted a concentrated air strike. This was followed by Sukhoi-7 fighter bombers, which located hostile missile positions and command centers in the theater of operations. After that, Ilyushin-28 tactical bombers mined an advanced hostile airfield to prevent its use against our forces.

After that, MiG-17 fighter bombers destroyed and paralyzed missile positions and command-and-control centers with an overall air strike on the hostile airfield. Long-range TU-16 heavy bombers, guarded by F-7 aircraft, carried out a deterrent strike against targets behind enemy lines. Buffalo and C-130 air transport aircraft and Gazelle, M-8, Commando and Chinook helicopters then carried out an airborne landing, supply and drop operation in cooperation with storm troopers and paratroopers who seized targets controlling the battlefield and hindered attempts to advance enemy reinforcements to contact his troops taking part in the fighting.

Following the airborne landing operation, Mirage-V's, F-16's and F-4's made concentrated strikes to paralyze enemy airfields, command centers, missile positions, and control centers. At the end of the maneuver, Mirage fighter bombers demonstrated aerial maneuvers.

Following the maneuver, Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah stressed that the air force is the vanguard of the armed forces and that the maneuver demonstrated the extent of the splendid performance and high training of our air force personnel.

Air Force Commander Maj Gen Pilot Muhammad 'Abd al-Hamid Hilmi made a speech at the beginning of the maneuver. He said that 50 years ago today the Egyptian Army received the first squadron of aircraft to be the nucleus of the Egyptian Air Force. Now, after 50 years of serious work, our air force has become a sophisticated power that has status in the Middle East. This period saw the greatest images of heroism and sacrifice. This force fought three wars and crowned its immortal deeds with the magnificent performance during the October war of 1973. Concluding his speech, he stressed that our air force will always remain a strong shield of our armed forces, a protector of our country's airspace, and a sure guarantee to ensure safety and security for the Egyptian people.

GHALI DISCUSSES EUROPEAN, U.S., MIDDLE EAST ISSUES

NC012328 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 1 Nov 82

["Dialogue With an Official" program prepared and presented by 'Imad 'Abd at-Tawwab -- dialogue with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali; date, place not specified -- recorded]

[Excerpts] ['Imad 'Abd at-Tawwab] Welcome, Your Excellency. President Mitterrand is scheduled to visit Cairo in November. Can we first throw some light on the importance of this visit?

[Ghali] In fact, the importance of this visit is due to our strong bilateral relations. Egypt lies on the southern shore of the Mediterranean Sea, while France lies on its northern shores. It is as if the Mediterranean is the common denominator between Egypt and France.

Our relationship has various features. For example, France will set up the first nuclear power station in Egypt. It will begin building this station on the Mediterranean coast some 80 to 100 km from Alexandria in the coming months.

There is complete coordination between Egyptian and French diplomacy with regard to the Middle East crisis. There is an Egyptian-French draft resolution on the agenda of the UN Security Council. This draft resolution will be discussed in the coming months if the U.S. initiative does not crystallize, rather if the U.S. initiative does not succeed. There is coordination between Egyptian and French diplomacy on the African Continent. An invitation was addressed to Egypt to participate in the French-African summit conference in Paris last year. Last month, the 2d, 6th, or 10th [as heard] French-African summit conference was held in the city of Kinshasa. There are strong bilateral relations on the diplomatic level. Consequently, President Mitterrand's visit to Cairo is regarded as a confirmation of these relations and of the French interest in Egyptian diplomacy and of the Egyptian interest in French foreign policy.

[Question] Mr Minister, it is natural for Europe to express its desire to play a role in seeking a solution to the Middle East problem. France, as Your Excellency has stated, was among the states which proposed to Europe that it adopt an initiative -- as Your Excellency has stated, the French-Egyptian draft resolution. The question is: What can the European states offer? Do you believe that a specific joint European stand can be achieved on the Palestinian issue in the future?

[Answer] In fact, Europe has played a role since the Venice Declaration was issued by the European Community. We must differentiate between France as a member of the European community and the European Community itself. The European Community played a role through the Venice Declaration or throug the European mission which was sent [to the area].

The European Community also convened and issued a very important statement when the Israeli aggression was committed against the Palestinian people and Lebanon. In fact, Egyptian diplomacy took this European statement as the legal basis of the Egyptian-French initiative that is before the Security Council. It is as if there is a close relationship between the French diplomatic move and the Egyptian diplomatic move. Europe can play an essential role in finding a solution to the Middle East crisis. For example, Europe is participating in the multinational force in the Sinai.

[Question] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, an opinion is now being reiterated that the continuation of the European-Egyptian Arab dialogue will lead to the West's recognition of the PLO. What is your opinion?

[Answer] The West has recognized the PLO. With regard to the holding of negotiations in which PLO representatives will be present, the West has approved of this. All the statements issued by the European Community have called for the need for mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel -- mutual and simultaneous recognition. They have also called for dealing with the PLO. What I want to say is that the statement that was issued in Brussels in the wake of the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian people said openly that there can be no negotiations unless the PLO participates in these negotiations. The PLO has offices in the majority of the European capitals. Furthermore, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat was officially recieved in Rome last month. In addition, the European Community has recognized the PLO and it believes the PLO must participate in future negotiations if these negotiations are to achieve the comprehensive and just peace which is the goal of Egyptian diplomatic moves.

[Question] Mr Minister, then the world fully realizes the importance of the PLO's participation, even though each state has its reservations. In your opinion, does the PLO constitute a political force at present, especially after its military steadfastness in the face of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon for 77 days?

[Answer] Undoubtedly, the PLO is the basic factor in the Palestinian movement. The stand Egyptian diplomacy has adopted from the beginning -- since President as-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem -- is that the Palestinian side must participate in the negotiations. Without the Palestinian side's participation in the peace process, there is no hope of accomplishing any achievement in this process. Several Egyptian memoranda have been presented to the U.S. side asking it to start contacts with the PLO and to start contacts with the Palestinian people because such contacts are the bases of the movement for the achievement of peace in the Middle East. Of course, the U.S. side is clinging to the inevitability of the PLO recognizing the State of Israel and the UN resolutions. It is then the United States will be prepared to negotiate with the PLO. Since the preparatory conference which convened here in Cairo in December 1977, Egyptian diplomacy has been trying to help in the holding of a dialogue between the Israeli and the Palestinian sides, whether directly or indirectly. Such a dialogue is necessary, because through it we can give new momentum to the peace process.

[Question] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, allow me to move from the Egyptian-European dialogue to the Egyptian-American dialogue, and ask Your Excellency: Can this dialogue turn into a tripartite dialogue involving another Arab state? By this I am referring to Jordan and the recent talks between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat.

[Answer] One of the aims of Egyptian diplomacy since the [word indistinct] agreement and the Camp David agreements has been that the tripartite negotiations -- the negotiations among Egypt, the United States and Israel -- become quadrilateral or five-sided negotiations. In other words, the Palestinian side should participate in these negotiations and the Jordanian side should participate in these negotiations. We hope the current contacts that are now taking place between the Jordanian and the Palestinian sides and also between the Jordanian and the U.S. sides can lead to the participation of the Jordanian and the Palestinian sides, which might begin in the coming months in order to apply the principles of U.S. President Reagan's initiative. President Reagan's initiative contains a group of principles. How will these principles be applied? What mechanisms will undertake the application of these principles? Will it be through tripartite, quadrilateral or five-sided negotiations? The Egyptian stand is clear. Egypt refuses to participate in any negotiations from now on unless the Jordanian side and the Palestinian side participate in these negotiations.

[Question] Ladies and gentlemen, we will have another meeting in which we will complete the dialogue with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, on the importance of the European-Egyptian-American dialogue in the coming phase, and the diplomatic efforts Egypt is making to help fraternal Lebanon in addition to many other subjects.

PALESTINIAN DELEGATION MEETS EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS

GF011450 Doha QNA in Arabic 0938 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Doha, 1 Nov (QNA) -- The Qatari daily AR-RAYAH, in a report from Amman, quotes a high-level diplomatic source as saying that official talks were recently held in Cairo between a military and political Palestinian delegation, led by Brig Gen Fakhri Shturah and including Jamal as-Surani, Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, and Abu al-Za'im, and the Egyptian Government regarding the return of the 'Ayn Jalut forces to Egypt.

The paper today quotes this source as saying that the talks dealt with the visit of Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, to Egypt to meet with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

Talks also included the issues of Voice of Palestine broadcasts from Cairo and holding the next session of the Palestine National Council and the Palestinian general confernce in Cairo next month.

The paper further quotes the source as saying that Cairo will welcome a visit by Yasir 'Arafat at any time, that Egypt's doors are open for all the Palestinians, whether leadership or people, and that the discussion of the issues proposed by the delegation has been postponed until the meeting between President Mubarak and 'Arafat, which is expected to take place in Cairo in November.

MUBARAK COMMENTS ON TABAH PROBLEM, OTHER ISSUES

NC011309 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1235 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) -- In response to questions by foreign journalists and correspondents today, President Husni Mubarak said that from the outset Egypt has objected to the situation in Tabah and is pursuing procedures concerning the talks.

Answering a question following his meeting with the organizational secretaries of the National Democratic Party [NDP] today, President Mubarak said Egypt is prepared and ready to begin the talks on the Tabah issue.

Answering a question on the impact of the Tabah problem on Egyptian-Israeli relations, President Mubarak expressed the belief that any problem that arises between Egypt and Israel must be resolved by peaceful means. He said, we hope to arrive at a solution to this problem.

President Mubarak asked: Do you believe that we want further tension or war because of Tabah? He affirmed that Egypt will continue to work by peaceful means to resolve this problem.

Answering another question about his frequent visits to work and production sites, President Mubarak said that our problem is production. We concentrate all our efforts on agricultural and industrial production. We are constantly following up our production. He expressed the belief that production will increase only through more work.

Concerning his meetings with the youths, President Mubarak said that in his meeting with the NDP members he explained some points on which they sought clarifications. He also met with some citizens for the same purpose.

President Mubarak noted that the prime minister will also visit the governorates for the same purpose.

'ALI RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SHAMIR ON TABAH

NC011433 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1402 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received a message today from Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in reply to his message which he sent on 25 October on the Tabah issue and the importance of a quick resumption of the negotiations on this problem. 'Ali received the message from Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason during a meeting today.

During the meeting, 'Ali stressed Egypt's determination that the inauguration and operation of the hotel established in the Tabah area be stopped, because Egypt considers this to be a violation of the agreement signed between the two countries on 25 April 1982 on this area.

Commenting on this issue, Egyptian Foreign Ministry circles said that the Israeli message approves the holding of talks between the two sides to discuss the Tabah issue. Israel also asked that other issues relevant to boosting the efforts to normalize bilateral relations be discussed. These circles said the Israeli message did not touch on the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv.

Egypt believes that the return of its ambassador to Tel Aviv can take place after the situation that led to recalling him is over. In his message to Shamir on 25 October, 'Ali demanded that a meeting on the technical level be held this month to discuss the differences over Tabah.

AL-AKHBAR ASSAILS ISRAEL'S STAND ON TABAH ISSUE

NC020002 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Nov (MENA) -- In their editions for tomorrow, Tuesday, the newspapers AL-AKHBAR and AL-AHRAM denounce Israel's stand on the Tabah issue and on the investigation into the massacres perpetrated in the Beirut camps.

Under the title "The Israeli Excuse," the paper AL-AKHBAR editorially says: Israel can only live in an atmosphere imbued with tension and problems, and this fact is corroborated by Israel's own behavior. The reason is that, if opportunities for peace and stability arise, Israel carefully and frequently creates problems that achieve this strategic objective.

The paper wonders: If it is not true that Israel creates problems, then what could be a plausible justification for the Tabah issue, which Israel created before the conclusion of the phases of its final withdrawal from the Sinai in accordance with the peace treaty with Egypt?

AL-AKHBAR clarifies Egypt's stand since it signed the peace agreement with Israel -- that not a single grain of the Sinai's soil will be ceded.

Furthermore, since the beginning, Egypt has affirmed to Israel that it is impossible for peace to be achieved under the policy of expansion and seizing others' territories.

The paper points to the agreement that Egypt has signed with Israel on Tabah. It says: This agreement crowned the principle which Egypt and Israel endorsed when they signed the Camp David agreements. This principle is that Egypt and Israel will resolve issue that arise between them through peaceful negotiations. This agreement banned taking any measures or practicing any activities within the area over which Israel created a dispute. This ban included a halt on the completion of the hotel Israel was building in Tabah. The paper adds that, as it has grown accustomed, Israel is practicing the (?hobby) of freedom of action in accordance with the principle of fait accompli. On this basis, Israel has completed the hotel and prepared it for inauguration and the accommodation of tourists, despite Egypt's objection and protests. Egypt has voiced its objection and opposition on the grounds that this action is a flagrant violation of the agreements that were already concluded. It is impossible for us, in view of this Israeli insistence on creating tension, to say anything other than the Tabah issue is nothing but a pretext which Israel has decided to use to achieve this [strategic Israeli] aim.

AL-AKHBAR SCORES SHARON'S TESTIMONY ON MASSACRE

NC260732 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 26 Oct 82

[From the press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, AL-AKHBAR comments on the ugliest crime committed in the second half of the 20th century, namely, the massacre of innocent men, women and children in the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps in West Beirut.

Regarding this, AL-AKHBAR refers to Sharon's testimony before the Israeli inquiry commission -- which was formed despite him and his government -- that he had ordered the Lebanese militia, who are agents of Israel, to storm both camps which were not guarded or protected save for pledges made by Israel itself.

The Israeli murderer [saffah], in his testimony, did not deny that he had planned for this massacre before it took place, despite the fact that he said he had not imagined that a massacre would take place. Sharon also disclosed that he learned about the massacre against the innocents, but did not give orders to stop it, claiming that clashes were going on in both camps.

This clear testimony is considered to be evidence of the guilt of Sharon. His guilt is not only political, but also criminal and moral. Therefore, we do not rule out the possibility that the Israeli minister, who is responsible for the great crime, will be punished. The paper adds: Although Sharon himself has admitted to this heinous crime and tried to disclaim the responsibility of Prime Minister Menahem Begin, he pointed out in another way that Begin and the Israeli Government also bear the responsibility. AL-AKHBAR says: The blood-thirsty defense minister said that earlier, the government approved the use of its Lebanese agents in the fighting against their Lebanese brothers and the Palestinians. He explained that the government did not put limits on the use of Lebanese agents. Thus, the guilt lies with Sharon, Begin and his government. The verdict of history will be stronger than any verdict handed down by the Israeli inquiry commission, despite the fact that the Begin government, in the view of the whole world, is considered to have fallen.

'ALI DEPARTS FOR ANKARA ON FIRST LEG OF TOUR

NC020607 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali left Cairo for Ankara this morning on the first leg of a tour which will take him to Turkey, France, Canada, the United States and Britain.

The radio correspondent has learned that 'Ali will hand Turkish President Kenan Evren and U.S. President Ronald Reagan letters from President Husni Mubarak during visits to both countries.

On 12 November, 'Ali will meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and will discuss with him the situation in the Middle East in light of the results of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. They will also discuss the current ideas on establishing peace in the Middle East, particularly President Reagan's initiative, the Fes summit conference resolutions, and bilateral relations.

REPORTAGE ON FIGHTING WITH IRAN 28 OCT-2 NOV

Communique No 887

JN291656 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 29 Oct 82

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Oct (INA) -- The Iraqi Armed Forces have killed eight Iranian troops and destroyed one tank, two hardware stockpiles and one vehicle loaded with hardware during their activities in the central and southern sectors of the battlefield. Our air force aircraft also attacked the enemy positions and concentrations in the 'Eyn Khowsh area in the southern sector, scoring direct and effective hits before returning safely to base. This was stated in a communique issued today by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 887 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of Iraq's dear soil, the brave Iraqi soldiers have continued their activities against the forces of the expansionist aggressors. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units sighted and pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing eight and destroying one tank and one hardware stockpile.
2. Our bold air force aircraft today attacked the enemy positions and concentrations in the 'Eyn Khowsh area in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits. All our aircraft returned safely to base.
3. One vehicle loaded with hardware and one hardware stockpile were destroyed east of Basra.
4. The vicious enemy today shelled Khanaqin and Mandali with artillery, wounding one civilian and damaging some houses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 October 1982

Chemical Weapons Use Denied

JN300820 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0755 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Text] United Nations, 30 Oct (INA) -- Iraq has categorically denied Iranian claims that it is using chemical weapons in its dispute with Iran. Iraq's permanent UN representative, Dr Riyad al-Qaysi, has described these accusations as mere lies and distorting of facts to which the Iranian regime has constantly resorted.

At a news conference here last night, Dr al-Qaysi said the Iranian rulers resort to these accusations and falsehoods every time they suffer a diplomatic defeat in international forums. He stressed that the Iranian regime's continued rejection of all Islamic and international efforts for the settlement of the dispute between Iraq and Iran and its insistence to continue its aggression against Iraq are sufficient evidence of Iran's lies and falsehood.

Communique No 888

JN301757 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 82

[Communique No 888 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In order that Iraq may remain strong and the Arab nation's dignity safeguarded, our valiant forces continued their activities against the forces of the oppressive Khomeyni clique, whose viciousness blinded it, preventing it from seeing justice, and prompted it to continue its aggression against our proud people and heroic armed forces -- defenders of our borders and dignity. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. An enemy concentration was sighted opposite our forces' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our forces opened fire on it, killing 39 and destroying 1 vehicle, 1 infantry position and 2 hardware stockpiles.
2. Today our capable air force aircraft launched violent attacks on the enemy positions and concentrations northeast of the 'Eyn Khowsh area in the southern sector of the battlefield, scoring effective hits and inflicting human and material losses on the enemy. All our aircraft returned safely to base.
3. Today our bold army helicopters attacked enemy military targets in the central sector of the battlefield, inflicting losses in personnel and vehicles. All our helicopters returned safely to base.
4. Two were killed and a 106-mm self-propelled gun was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.
5. The racist Iranian regime today shelled Basra with intermittent artillery fire, causing some damage and losses.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 October 1982

Communique No 889

JN311723 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Communique No 889 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 31 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The sons of our brave armed forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the vicious Iranian regime. They are doing so to drive away the enemy's evil and aggression. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing 12 and destroying 1 excavator, hardware stockpiles and 2 observation posts.
2. Our armed helicopters today attacked enemy positions and vehicles in the central sector, scoring effective hits. All our helicopters returned safely to base.
3. Three were killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.
4. Two were killed east of Basra.
5. Today the vicious enemy shelled Basra and Khanaqin, causing some losses and damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 October 1982

Communique No 890

JN011724 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Communique No 890 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 1 November]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The more viciously the Khomeyni clique persists in its aggression against our proud country and glorious Arab nation, the more defeats and losses in men and equipment are inflicted on its forces, and the more disasters are suffered by the Iranian people who are afflicted by this heretic clique. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units sighted and pounded an enemy troop concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield killing 23. We have confirmed that in addition to the losses mentioned in our communique on 30 October 1982, in the central sector the enemy sustained 18 killed, a number of wounded and 2 tanks, 3 vehicles, 3 guns of various caliber and 1 observation post destroyed.

2. Today our valiant air force attacked the enemy armor and personnel positions and units in the 'Eyn Khowsh area in the southern sector of the battlefield, inflicting massive losses. Tongues of fire and columns of smoke were seen rising from the attacked enemy targets. All our aircraft returned safely to base.
3. Two were killed in the 'Eyn Khowsh area in the southern sector of the battlefield.
4. The vile enemy shelled Basra and Mandali with artillery last night and today, damaging 14 houses and 2 civilian cars.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 November 1982

Maritime War Zone Defined

JN012040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2002 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) -- Iraq has warned the maritime transport companies and oil tankers against approaching the maritime war zone in the northern Arabian Gulf. It has defined this zone by four points.

An Iraqi military spokesman told INA tonight that this zone is considered a prohibited zone of military operations, stressing that Iraq will not assume any material or moral responsibility toward the owners of ships and oil tankers.

The spokesman indicated that the borders of this zone are confined between:

1. The point of the line beginning with 29 degrees and 30 minutes north; and 48 degrees and 30 minutes east.
2. Twenty-nine degrees and 25 minutes north; and 49 degrees and 9 minutes east.
3. Twenty-eight degrees and 31 minutes north; and 49 degrees and 47 minutes east. [Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic at 2100 GMT on 1 November carries the same report which contains the following variation: 3. Twenty-eight degrees and 23 minutes north; and 49 degrees and 47 minutes east. Changing "31 minutes north" to "23 minutes north."]
4. The point of the line ending with 28 degrees and 23 minutes north; and 51 degrees and 00 minutes east.

New Offensive 'Foiled'

JN020754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Nov (INA) -- Iraqi forces have foiled an Iranian offensive against the IV Corps units in the area opposite the Maysan Governorate in the southern operational sector, crushing the attacking forces.

An Iraqi military spokesman said this morning that the enemy attacked the IV Corps units last night and this morning in a desperate attempt to penetrate Iraq's international borders. The spokesman asserted that the offensive failed miserably and that the Iraqi forces had crushed the attacking forces.

The spokesman said that the battle is still raging and that the Iraqi forces are teaching the aggressors the lessons they deserve. He asserted that the expansionist aggressors will only reap disappointment and succesive defeats for their evil designs.

Jets Score 'Direct Hits'

JN020930 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0900 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Fight them, and God will punish them by your hands cover them with shame, help you to victory over them, heal the breasts of believers. [Koranic verse]

Since the early hours of today, our daring air force planes have been proving their complete supremacy of the battleskies and continuing their violent and intensive strikes on the enemy's units, which are desperately attempting to penetrate our international borders in the IV Corps sector in the region opposite the Maysan Governorate, and deep inside the enemy territory in the 'Eyn Khowsh region in the southern operational sector.

Our daring eagles have scored direct and painful hits on enemy targets, wiping out several troop concentrations, a large number of tanks, guns and vehicles and various military hardware. The enemy, as a result of our combat missions, was gripped with panic and confusion.

Our planes, in full coordination and cooperation with our heroic ground forces, continue to deal blows to the defeated enemy and its terrified remnants.

'Military Source' on Raids

JN021054 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Nov (INA) -- A short while ago, an Iraqi military source affirmed that the Iraqi fighter planes continue to discharge successful and effective missions to wipe out Iranian troop, vehicular and armor concentrations.

The military source told INA that none of the Iraqi fighter planes has been hit during the raids which have been going on since dawn today. He added that the Iraqi Air Force is carrying out combat missions with complete success and is dealing direct and violent blows, rendering the enemy impotent.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES AUSTRIAN MINISTER

JN011740 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1720 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) -- This evening President Saddam Husayn received Josef Staribacher, Austrian commerce, trade and industry minister and head of the Austrian side on the Iraqi-Austrian Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation. The Austrian minister conveyed to President Saddam Husayn Chancellor Bruno Kreisky's greetings and his wishes for progress and prosperity.

During the meeting, President Saddam Husayn and the Austrian minister discussed the results of the joint Iraqi-Austrian committee, ways of promoting cooperation between Iraq and Austria in the interest of the two friendly peoples and reviewed the latest Arab developments and the Iraq-Iran war.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

JN011352 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Nov (INA) -- An agreement on economic and technical cooperation between Iraq and Austria was signed here this morning at the end of the fifth session of the joint cooperation committee. It was signed for Iraq by Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi and for Austria by Commerce, Trade and Industry Minister Josef Staribacher.

Taqi praised the developed relations between the two countries and the positive spirit that marked the talks, stressing that this agreement is an important step toward consolidating bilateral relations. The Austrian minister expressed great pleasure at the progress of relations with Iraq. He also expressed satisfaction with the talks held with Iraqi officials.

AL-JUMAYYIL RETURNS FROM TALKS WITH KING HASSAN

NC020020 [Editorial Report] Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 2332 GMT on 1 November reported that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil arrived at Beirut International Airport at 2315 GMT. Darwish 'Ammar, the Beirut radio correspondent, reported the president's return in a recorded dispatch.

He said: "President of the Lebanese Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil arrived at Beirut airport at 0115 on 2 November. He was accompanied by Foreign and Expatriates Minister Dr Elie Salim, coming from Morocco after the president met with His Majesty King Hassan II. The president held talks with the king on the situation in Lebanon in particular and on the Middle East area in general.

"Stringent security measures were taken at the airport by the airport security organ, men of the Lebanese Army riot squad and the republican guard.

"On hand to meet his excellency the president at the airport were His Excellency Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan; Victor Khuri, army commanding general; Prince Faruq Abu al-Lam', director general of public security; Staff Maj Gen Ahmad al-Hajj, director general of the internal security forces; Col Johnny 'Abduh, chief of intelligence in the Deuxieme Bureau of the Lebanese Army; Staff Brig Gen Yazid Suwayd, airport security forces commander; Edmond Ghusn, acting director general of civil aviation; Richard Muja'is, director of the Middle East Airlines station at the airport, and a large number of well-wishers."

Included in the dispatch is a brief dialogue with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan who commented on the president's visit to Morocco. The prime minister said that such activity is for the good of Lebanon.

The recorded dispatch ended at 2339 GMT, when Beirut Domestic Service also concluded its transmission with the Lebanese national anthem.

Al-Wazzan Comments on Talks

NC020038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2332 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan interviewed by Beirut Radio correspondent Darwish 'Ammar at Beirut International Airport on 1 November prior to President Amin al-Jumayyil's return from Morocco -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, can you comment on the visit that His Excellency President al-Jumayyil made to Morocco today and on the talks he held with the Moroccan monarch?

[Answer] You ask me this question when I am waiting for his excellency the president to return? We hope this return will produce successful results, exactly as we wished when he departed. At any rate, I believe there is a blessing in movement. This continuing movement, in itself, will definitely produce good. Lebanon now stands in need of all its sons. Therefore, you can imagine how much Lebanon needs its president, who obviously senses his great responsibility and works day and night for the homeland. In cooperation with the president, we pursue the same course. We implore God Almighty to help us and to grant us success. We have nothing other than this wish to voice while we are waiting for his return within a few minutes.

[Question] As is known, his excellency will make an Arab tour. Are you optimistic about the results of this tour?

[Answer] We must continue to be optimistic. Were it not for optimism, one could not work. We are always optimistic. Always be optimistic about what is good, and you will reap it.

[Question] Thank you, Your Excellency the Prime Minister.

SHAM'UN VIEWS SECURITY TREATY WITH ISRAEL, SYRIA

PM010845 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Oct 82 p 2

[Wafa'i Diyab report on statement by former President Camille Sham'un in London: "Al-Jumayyil Tour of Arab Countries, Especially Saudi Arabia, is Necessary"]

[Excerpts] London -- Former President Camille Sham'un has stressed the importance of the visit that President Amin al-Jumayyil intends to make to the Arab countries, saying that it is very necessary at present. He said he is optimistic about the early withdrawal of the Syrian and Israeli forces and about the future of Lebanon. In an exclusive statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in London, Sham'un said Al-Jumayyil's forthcoming visit to Saudi Arabia is of particular importance because of the country's distinguished Arab and international status.

He added: Saudi Arabia's continuing pursuit of the good of the Arab countries has won it the distinguished moral position we respect and appreciate.

He said Al-Jumayyil's proposed Arab tour, after the American and European tour, is very important. He called on Al-Jumayyil to widen his European contacts to include Britain, West Germany and other major powers.

Speaking about the possibility of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon, Sham'un said: I have no reason to be pessimistic in this regard. I believe the Syrians will withdraw their forces together with all the Palestinian fighters. of course, there is no question that Israel will also withdraw.

Regarding the security agreement Israel is demanding, Sham'un said: If the cost of Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is the signing of a security treaty with Israel, then I have no objection, provided that Israel will undertake not to carry out any aggression against Lebanon and to absolutely respect Lebanon's independence. In return, Lebanon must undertake not to allow the organizations that operated on its territory in the past years to resume their activities, if such activities constitute a threat to Israel's security. I would like to point out here that such undertakings are to a large extent incorporated in the 1949 armistice agreement.

Sham'un added: If the Syrian Government demands a similar treaty we have no objection to it either, despite the fact that the Arab League constitution and the pacts in force are sufficient to ensure security between the two countries.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN -- The Foreign Ministry today received the Spanish Government's approval of the appointment of Jean Riyashi, Foreign Ministry protocol director, as Lebanese ambassador to Spain. [Text] [Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 28 Oct 82 NC]

HAFIZ AL-ASAD INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON, USSR

JN301500 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1224 GMT 30 Oct 82

["Text" of interview given by President Hafiz al-Asad to AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI correspondents Jubran Tuwayn and Wadi al-Hilu -- date, place not specified]

[Text] Question No 1: The Israeli invasion of Lebanon came exactly 6 years after the Syrian initiative, which resulted in the entry of Syrian forces into Lebanon. Mr President, what follows the 6-year-old Syrian initiative, and what follows the Israeli invasion of Lebanon?

The president: Syrian forces, as we all know, entered Lebanon at the request of Lebanese personalities, forces and parties as well as at the request of the legitimate authority in Lebanon. This took place at a time when the civil war was burning everything up, spreading like wildfire in every town and village of Lebanon. In such an atmosphere, we responded to Lebanon's request and went to Lebanon.

To assess the work of Syrian forces during these years, we must go back 6 years to see what the situation was then and to find out what the Syrian forces have done during these years. We simply deduce, without giving details, that Syria accomplished quite a bit, mainly in halting the civil war and preserving Lebanon's unity. During this period, Syria was continuously motivating all parties to achieve an accord. This matter, as you know, does not basically depend on Syria; it depends directly on the parties concerned. Syria has played its role and the others have a role to be played now and in the future.

As for what will follow the Israeli invasion, we are now with Lebanon and will remain with it just as in the past. We sided strongly with Lebanon before the Israeli invasion of some parts of it. We side with it now, but with even more intensity, for the sake of liberating the Lebanese territory occupied by the enemy, irrespective of the burdens and sacrifices this might cause us. We consider this a duty, and our performance of this duty will not be subject to the request of anyone.

Question No 2: Mr President, why have Lebanese-Syrian relations deteriorated from time to time, and do you believe that, if the duties of Lebanon and those of Syria are defined, it would solve the problem?

The president: If you mean the Lebanese state, relations have always been good between Syria and Lebanon, as shown by the numerous speeches and statements that have been made from time to time by both sides.

Question No 3: But what about [relations] between Syria and some factions of the Lebanese people?

The president: Actually, we view everyone with the spirit of brotherhood. We tried to be a big brother acting with integrity in order to achieve an accord among the Lebanese. Such behavior did not always please all sides. This is the main reason for the differences that emerged from time to time. Nevertheless, we do not stop at this point. We consider all of them our brothers and sons, and we must help them and cooperate with them for the good of Lebanon and Syria as well as the good of the Arabs.

Question No 4: What is required from Lebanon and Syria to avoid any deterioration in future relations?

The president: All that we want is for Lebanon to be healthy. As for what is required from Syria, our brothers in Lebanon must make proposals. We are prepared to meet all conditions that will bolster fraternal relations to serve Syria and Lebanon.

Question No 5: Reports say that President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Damascus. Does Syria have an idea of what must be discussed with him regarding Syrian-Lebanese relations?

The president: Actually, we have not thought of a specific formula or concept we might offer during a possible visit to Damascus by Brother Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. However, generally speaking, we support any development that will bolster brotherly relations and mutual respect between Syria and Lebanon and safeguard the interests of both countries.

Question No 6: Syria adopted a positive position toward the election of Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil as president. Could this positiveness be crystallized by a decision to withdraw Syrian forces from the Al-Biqa' and the north, thus nullifying the Israeli excuse for remaining in Lebanon?

The president: I do not think the Israelis need such an excuse. In fact, they never presented any excuse when they invaded Lebanon. We are in Lebanon, and as I said a short while ago, fully prepared to sacrifice in the interest of Lebanon, particularly to achieve an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon. However, had we shown what you term in your question as positiveness, it would have turned out to be a definite negativeness and would not have been in the interest of Lebanon. That is the reason why we did not do it.

Question No 7: In other words, Syria will not withdraw from Lebanon until an Israeli withdrawal has been achieved?

The president: Of course.

Question No 8: In the past, there was a lot of talk about a security agreement with Lebanon as the basis for a future relationship between Lebanon and Syria, and as a condition for the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon. What happened to such an idea and does it still exist?

The president: I do not recall that Syria ever proposed such a condition, and it will not do so in the future. I recall that I was once asked about the idea of a security agreement between Syria and Lebanon. I recall that my answer was that, if it was in the interest of Lebanon to have such an agreement, then we would study it in a positive manner. In my opinion this answer remains valid. Anyhow, if such a proposal is made, it must safeguard the desires and aspirations of the two countries.

Question No 9: What is Damascus' opinion of former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam's call for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Syria and Lebanon? Is there anything that might prevent the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries?

The president: Officials from both countries can discuss everything at the appropriate time in view of the interests of the two countries. However, no one has ever proposed such a thing to us, and I have never entered into any discussion of it. I repeat, there is nothing to prevent the Syrians and Lebanese from discussing any issue that might benefit both Syria and Lebanon, and there is nothing that would prevent us from reaching an agreement on any issue.

Question No 10: Including diplomatic relations?

The president: Yes. There is nothing that would prevent us from discussing anything, including diplomatic relations at the appropriate time and in the appropriate circumstances.

Question No 11: Will Syria withdraw from Lebanon and in what manner? What if Israel does not withdraw?

The president: We went to Lebanon to satisfy Lebanon's need, and we will leave Lebanon when this need has been satisfied. This need is now most urgent under the Israeli occupation. I think our Lebanese brothers need our help, and I do not think there is anyone in Lebanon who wants the Israeli occupation to continue.

Question No 12: Is there a possibility of fighting and defeating Israel?

The president: Why not? Do we go on living hoping to fail? The issues of nations cannot be considered short-term, they require long years. Also, these issues and causes cannot be viewed in the same way as the affairs of individuals. There are many examples: the Vietnamese, our Arab people in Algeria and the Syrians and Lebanese. We struggled against French imperialism for 25 years and before that we struggled for hundreds of years against various forms of imperialism. We achieved our just aspirations. Is it logical for us to despair because we have not defeated Israel, which is armed with U.S. weapons, in a few years? We will definitely win because we are right, more populous, have stronger beliefs and are determined to seize our rights, so why shouldn't we win? The fighting in Lebanon indicated the possibility of victory despite the fact that some Arab news media did not analyze the events and reach this conclusion. However, if we did not have such hopes of victory, then we would raise our hands and surrender to Tel Aviv.

Question No 13: If Damascus decides to withdraw its forces from Lebanon, will it be able at the same time to guarantee the withdrawal of Palestinian forces?

The president: What is important from my point of view is that we must now concentrate on Israel's withdrawal. All other problems will then become solvable.

Question No 14: We have heard about the dispute between Syria and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. However, most of the real causes that exacerbate the differences are still unknown. Can you define for us the real Syrian-Palestinian dispute?

The president: Actually, I read from time to time, particularly in the press, about these differences, but I do not read anything about them when we hold talks or contacts with Yasir 'Arafat or with other Palestinian leaders. There is no dispute between us, because Syria does not covet anything owned by the PLO. There is nothing justifying the differences about which there is so much talk.

Question No 15: Mr President, there is a phrase written in large letters at the entrance of the Ba'th Party Regional Command building saying: Syria is for Palestine as much as Palestine is for Palestine. Can you, Mr President, explain to us the contents of this phrase and what is meant by it?

The president: Had you been a foreigner, I would have forgiven you. There is no puzzle in the matter. It is only that the enthusiasm of the Syrians for the Palestinians is as great as the enthusiasm of the Palestinians for Palestine. Don't you agree with me that the matter is simple and clear?

Question No 16: Mr President, what is the cause, or rather the causes, that prevented talk about the fighting of the Syrian forces in Lebanon, although the number of Syrian troops that left Beirut is hardly fewer than that of the Palestinian fighters?

The president: Actually, the Syrians, Palestinians and Lebanese know that the Syrian forces fought courageously and honorably, be it in Beirut, in the mountain [Al-Jabal] or in Al-Biqa'. Syrian forces fought wherever they were in Lebanon. They fought with courage, efficiency and daring in Beirut in defense of the Lebanese and Palestinians residing there.

We learned about this, not only from Beirut military channels, but also from sides concerned in Beirut, such as parties, personalities and Lebanese and Palestinian forces. The enemy also spoke about this matter. As for what prevented the talks from assuming a size compatible with this fighting, I can see that the matter is emotional and a result of long-term Zionist planning.

Question No 17: It was clear during the Syrian-Israeli battles that there was no equality between the two sides. Our question: Didn't the Syrian leadership know this in advance? If Israel's strength is much greater than Syria can face, why hasn't Syria avoided the fighting?

The president: It seems to me that the question is not clear enough. Perhaps you meant the imbalance of weapons between Syria and Israel, and this is a fact. However, when we want to assess Syria's battle in Lebanon against Israel, we must first take into account the number of Syrian forces stationed in Lebanon, a number that was much less than that of the Israeli forces that invaded Lebanon. Second, the deployment of Syrian forces in Lebanon except for southern Lebanon -- a deployment dictated by the security tasks that emerged as a result of the civil war in Lebanon -- dictated that Syrian forces perform police duties rather than the tasks fo a regular army for many years. Third, we must take the internal political and military situation in Lebanon into consideration. These considerations all serve the enemy's interests and do not create ideal circumstances for Syrian forces in their confrontation with Israeli forces.

Nevertheless, the battles waged by the Syrian forces had a profound meaning and effect. They are worthy of much study and analysis from the military point of view. Such a study will be made. These battles displayed the high standard of the Syrian soldier vis-a-vis his training and courage. Even if we go back to a few writings of some enemy leaders on various levels we will ascertain the truth of these words. It must be said that in military criteria -- despite Israel's military superiority and the negative considerations I have indicated -- the enemy scored no strategic victories in its confrontation with Syrian forces. The enemy was not able to destroy a Syrian Army unit despite the heavy weapons fire employed and despite the long period of fighting. The enemy did not manage to drive any Syrian Army formation out of the battle. The enemy also did not manage to influence the Syrian fighters' morale even a little.

Within the context of a comprehensive war that might have or still may take place between Syria and Israel, Israel will continue to be superior. However, this superiority is not absolute.

Question No 18: Mr President, many people in Lebanon think that Israel has achieved a more effective victory than that of 1967.

The president: Israel reached Beirut when Syria was not deployed between Beirut and the Lebanese-Israeli border. There have been no Syrian forces there for years. The Israeli victories in the areas where Syrian forces were stationed or in the areas opposite Syrian forces were not strategic victories. They were simple tactical matters that were absolutely not in proportion with Israel's superiority or with the difference in the number of Syrian and Israeli forces in Lebanon.

Question No 19: It has been said that the USSR was disappointed with the use of its weapons in this war and that Soviet T-72 tanks and MiG-21 and MiG-23 planes did not score any victories over Israeli Merkava tanks and Israeli aircraft.

The president: Battles have confirmed that the T-72 tanks are better than Israeli tanks. The T-72 tank is the best in the world. The Israelis did not hit any T-72 tanks with their tanks. They hit some of them with antiarmor rockets and with aircraft.

I say some tanks, meaning a small number of T-72 tanks. Briefly, I can say that our tanks are good weapons. The Israelis admitted the courage of the Syrian pilot. Naturally, what is more important than their admission is that we know this ourselves. The Israelis admitted that 23 of their aircraft were hit. You journalists follow up this matter more than I do. Why were these 23 aircraft hit? They must have been hit by Syrian aircraft. We know and admit that some types of Israeli aircraft are superior to ours, but this does not prevent us from intercepting them and hitting some of them. What is important for us is to prepare our men, as they are more important than other matters. We lose weapons on one day and find them on another, perhaps quickly. We have a good, large number of brave, trained pilots. We have large cadres for all types of weapons.

Question No 20: Syria previously submitted the issue of strategic balance with Israel. This has been repeated more than once, particularly since you personally have defined the nature of this balance. The question is: What has happened regarding this issue, particularly after the Israeli invasion of Lebanon?

The president: The issue of strategic balance is our only option, whether we want war or peace. It is an issue we have stressed for a long time. Under Israeli military superiority it is difficult for anyone, either in Syria or outside Lebanon, to hope for the attainment of a truly just peace. Our status in some military fields in strong, and we are in the process of overcoming any shortcoming or inadequacy that might exist in other fields. We realize that this balance cannot be achieved overnight; it requires work and time and we are moving along this path.

Question No 21: Even after Syrian insistence on pursuing a policy of Arab solidarity, we today see extensive Arab differences. Our question: Will Syria give up its previous policy to pursue one that relies on its own intrinsic power, more than on Arab aid, and how?

The president: We will continue to cling to and work for the sake of real Arab solidarity with a clearcut course and objective. This does not conflict with Syria's desire and work for the sake of building up its intrinsic strength, but rather complements them. We need the Arab solidarity to which you alluded, but it will never be a substitute for Syria's intrinsic power. If some people believe that solidarity can serve as a substitute for Syria's intrinsic power, they have the wrong concept and one that does not serve Syria's interests or their own.

Question No 22: What is the cause, or rather the causes, preventing the realization of an accord among the countries of the Arab East, like that in the Gulf region and between Egypt and Sudan?

The president: Briefly, it is due to the lack of a unified concept of pan-Arab issues, of the challenges facing us and of how to confront these challenges.

Question No 23: Should we ask with which of the Arabs Syria is establishing excellent, normal, bad or hostile [sidamiyah] relations?

The president: This classification is completely new. Syria's relations with all Arabs are fraternal and good, except with very few, and there is no need to mention them.

Question No 24: There are international voices saying that there are now more suitable circumstances than at any time before for a political settlement of the Middle East crisis. How true is this, in your opinion, and what conditions should prevail as far as Syria is concerned so a political settlement can be attained?

The president: Actually, I disagree with those holding such opinions, because the ceaseless Israeli aggression, which is motivated by the continuous pouring of U.S. arms [into Israel], is not bound to create a suitable atmosphere for a sound, peaceful process as some are proposing. I believe that an inevitable condition, and I am not saying a condition which is indispensible and necessary for thinking of such a process, is to limit the growing Israeli military development. Without this, I can see that all serious attempts to achieve a peace in the area, from the objective point of view, are doomed to failure.

Question No 25: How do you see the potential for diminishing the developing Israeli military power in order to establish peace in the area?

The president: There are many ways to achieve limitation. It could be achieved by developing the opposing side militarily or by halting arms supplies by the parties concerned. Naturally, this halt is impossible. This is a technical and political process and there is more than one way to achieve it. When the limitation is useful we will do it. [sentence as heard]

Question No 26: Does this include military methods, war for example?

The president: It could be, but actually I did not mean that here. The best way is for the country that is supplying Israel with huge quantities of arms and that is saying at the same time that it wants peace to halt this impetus and unlimited generosity in supplying arms and tools of destruction to Israel. This country is the United States.

At the same time, the Arabs, and Syria in particular, must develop their forces to achieve a balance between the Arabs and Israel, and this means between Syria and Israel.

Question No 27: How do you rate the possibilities of a military solution of the area's crisis and what chance does the political solution via the proposed projects stand?

The president: In my assessment, the answer to this question came within the answer to the previous questions. What is important is to regain or to achieve a balanced equation in the area. However, we will give our opinion in due time.

Question No 28: The federal or confederate Palestinian-Jordanian state plan is receiving Arab and international political coverage. It looks like an opening to resolve the Palestinian issue, and consequently, for resolving the crisis in the region. Our question: What is Damascus' stand on the plan?

The president: As you know, unity, as far as we are concerned, is ideological and not political. Hence, we support unity between any two or more Arab sides whether we are in agreement or disagreement with these parties or some of them.

Question No 29: What is Syria's stand on the Iraq-Iran war, particularly since Iranian forces have entered Iraqi territory and, as is known, Syria has previously explained that it stands against the violation of international borders by any side?

The president: Our stand on the Iraq-Iran war has been clear since the first day of this war. We believe that the ruling regime in Iraq shoulders the full responsibility for this war, because it started the war, invaded Iran, crossed the borders, occupied Iranian towns, bombarded some of these towns and worked to overthrow the regime in Iran. Moreover, we are confident that Iran entertains no covetous designs in even 1 inch of Iraq's land. The difference is between Iran and the ruling regime in Iraq.

Question No 30: Mr President, has a comprehensive and accurate review taken place regarding the past stage in light of the current situation and what is the mistake or what are the mistakes that led to this situation on the local, Arab and international levels?

The president: If you mean has a review taken place on the Arab level, the answer, I can say, is connected with the others. However, if you mean has a review taken place on the Syrian level, we have our own decisions and programs. Events testify to the soundness of these decision and programs and not the opposite.

Question No 31: What is Syria's impression after the meeting between the Arab seven-member committee -- of which Syria is a member -- and U.S. President Ronald Reagan?

The president: Our foreign minister has not yet returned from Washington, and I do not have any information about this meeting.

Question No 32: There are two main poles in the international arena: the United States and the USSR. If the slogan is: America is with Israel and the Soviets will not fight for us, how do you view the way out of the current dilemma?

The president: The Soviets are our friends. We ask for weapons from them but we do not ask for men. Hence, we have not asked them and will not ask them to fight for us. It is useful to say that a nation that does not fight for itself may not be blessed.

Question No 33: Mr President, what is the true nature of Syrian-American relations and what is the future of Syrian-Soviet relations in the wake of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon?

The president: Syrian-American relations can be understood in light of American-Israeli relations. Syrian-Soviet relations are those of friendship, and we deal with various issues in the spirit of the friendship existing between us. If we sometimes feel that we are in need of some types of weapons, this does not at all diminish the importance of the Soviet stand by our side in our just struggle or of continuous Soviet support for our just causes, whether by giving us arms or by supporting us politically in international forums.

Question No 34: There is a question about Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's request at the United Nations for the unconditional and immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. What is your comment on this?

The president: I do not think that President al-Jumayyil equates Syrian and Israeli forces. The Syrian and Israeli soldier cannot be regarded as equals by President Amin al-Jumayyil. The foreign forces are the Israeli forces. When Lebanese and Syrians talk to one another they say we are brothers. So how can we be brothers on one side and foreigners on the other? Don't you agree with me that matters do not unfold correctly in this way?

Question No 35: The idea of neutralizing Lebanon -- at least militarily and for a short period -- has been submitted so Lebanon can restore its well-being. What is Syria's opinion in this regard?

The president: What does the word "neutralizing" mean?

Question No 36: Neutralizing it militarily; namely, an international agreement to neutralize Lebanon in all the disputes existing in the region and the world, giving Lebanon a chance -- even for a short period of time -- to recover and forget the region's issues as well as to be excluded in the wars of others.

The president: This is a long subject that requires a long time. However, Lebanon's destiny has not been and will not be isolated from the destiny of the nation to which it belongs. Its glory stems from this nation's glory; its humiliation stems from this nation's humiliation; its gains stem from this nation's gains; and its losses stem from this nation's losses. However, I have read nothing about such an idea recently. We care for Lebanon as much as we care for Syria.

Question No 37: Mr President, does Syria oppose the idea, which was submitted during the civil war in Lebanon, on separating any solution to the Lebanese issue from the solution to the Middle East issue?

The president: On the contrary, Syria was the first to say -- and I confirm this -- that the Lebanese crisis must be resolved separately from the Middle East problem.

USSR'S SKACHKOV DEPARTS DAMASCUS 1 NOVEMBER

JN011443 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Semen Skachkov, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and head of the USSR side in the Syrian-Soviet Joint Committee for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, left Damascus this afternoon at the end of the committee's meeting. The meeting ended yesterday.

BULGARIAN AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL ARRIVES 31 OCT

JN311557 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] Aleksandur Petkov, Bulgarian minister of agriculture [title as hear], arrived in Damascus today heading an official delegation on a 5-day visit to Syria. In an arrival statement, the minister stressed the importance of his visit, which is aimed at promoting cooperation between the two friendly countries.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES FATAH COMMITTEE MEMBER 1 NOV

JN020749 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Nimr Salih, Fatah Central Committee member, at 1830 yesterday. Discussion during the meeting revolved around a number of issues pertaining to the Palestinian cause.

SHAMIR ADDRESSES FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Views Settlements

TA011113 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The foreign minister has said that the U.S. demand [drisha] that Israel impose a settlement freeze in the territories had already been raised in his talks in Washington during his meeting with his counterpart, George Shultz. We rejected that demand out of hand, the foreign minister emphasized at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Views Syrian Proposal

TA011239 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The foreign minister believes that the security arrangements in southern Lebanon should bear the character of a de facto peace. He was speaking to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Minister Shamir disclosed that Syria announced it would be willing to reach a nonbelligerence agreement with Israel in exchange for a full withdrawal to the 1967 borders. This position was voiced by the Syrian representative in the Arab League delegation which recently met President Reagan in Washington.

'De Facto' Lebanon Peace Sought

TA011633 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1520 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Report from the Knesset by Gil'ad Mishori -- recorded]

[Text] The foreign minister's fairly optimistic report to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee met with a hail of accusations and barbs from the opposition members. Yitzhaq Shamir said that Israel wants security arrangements in southern Lebanon bearing the character of a de facto peace. The Israeli position that the terrorists leave Lebanon first and that afterwards the Syrians and the IDF leave together remains unchanged. The Americans showed understanding regarding our position on the matter of Lebanon, but the picture is unclear regarding President al-Jumayyil's position, Shamir said. Al-Jumayyil told the Americans, the foreign minister went on, that the arrangements must be approved by the Lebanese Government, whose very diverse composition will make obtaining such approval difficult.

My talks in the United States were held in a good atmosphere, Shamir said, adding that the rumor that the Americans are preparing a chilly welcome for Menahem Begin is groundless. The Americans were impressed by the discipline of the Arab foreign ministers delegation under Moroccan King Hassan. However, Shamir said, the delegation made vague statements, which ultimately were nothing more than a public relations ploy.

Shamir said that, in the United States, he explained the government's position on the settlements, to which MK Yosef Sarid responded: I understand that at least one person was not convinced -- Israel's U.S. ambassador. What then did the Americans think? Shamir said that Israel's U.S. ambassador shared his position on the settlements. MAPAM's Victor Shem-Tov urged the government to accept Moshe Arens' proposal to freeze the establishment of settlements. On this matter, former Foreign Minister Abba Eban told Shamir: You must announce that you do not accept the conception of Ministers Ehrlich and Ne'eman that an ambassador's role is only to report on events in the country where he is posted. Arens' proposal should be raised for discussion in the Cabinet, Eban said.

The alignment members attacked the government's foreign policy, claiming among other things that following the Lebanese war, this policy had suffered a defeat and that all the political objectives had met with failure.

On peace with Lebanon, Ge'ula Kohen said that Israel should not have given up the goal of peace, and that there should be no withdrawal from Lebanon until a peace agreement is achieved.

The committee also discussed relations with Egypt. The committee's hawks -- Ge'ula Kohen, David Magen and Yiga'el Hurvitz -- said that the war in Lebanon was only an excuse for the Egyptians to freeze normalization. They said it was impossible to protest and then continue as though nothing had happened. Shamir said that it is true that the Egyptians are violating many of the normalization agreement's clauses.

Reports Weinberger Request

TA011954 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpt] U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has asked Israel to help in the rehabilitation of the Lebanese Army. This was disclosed today by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at a meeting of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee. Minister Shamir also said that Syria had expressed willingness for a nonbelligerence agreement with Israel, but this would be in exchange for Israel's return to the 1967 borders.

TABAH HOTEL OPENS; EGYPTIAN CONSUL LEAVES ELAT

TA011953 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Today the new Avia Sonesta Hotel opened on the Tabah coast for a breaking-in period. When this is completed, the hotel will be officially inaugurated in the presence of the minister of tourism.

Our correspondent in the south has learned that the Egyptian consul in Elat has returned to this country. The consul staff could not say when he will return. Our correspondents 'Ofer Taler, Yoram Ronen and Yig'al Goren report on the consul's return to Egypt and Egyptian-Israeli relations: [Begin videotape] To mark the day the hotel begins to function, the employees celebrated with a very small group of guests in a modest, symbolic ceremony. U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis happened to be in the area on a private visit and was invited to the ceremony, but he politely declined.

The Egyptian consul in Elat, Hasan (''Isa), has returned to Egypt. The consul staff is prepared to say, in private conversations: The consul left for Cairo a few days ago. He is on leave. When will he return to Elat? A consul staff member said: The date of his return to Israel is unknown. Is his trip connected with the Tabah border dispute? The consul staff is not prepared to say this openly. They directed me to an official announcement published last night in which Egypt announced its opposition on the opening of the new hotel in the disputed area. [end videotape]

MINISTER SHARIR COMMENTS ON TABAH HOTEL OPENING

TA020754 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by Hayim Shapiro]

[Text] "Even if I wanted to stop the opening of the hotels, and I don't, I would be powerless to do so," Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir told THE JERUSALEM POST last night, in reference to the new Avia Sonesta Hotel in the disputed Tabah region which extends 700 metres south of Elat.

The hotel opened for business yesterday. Sharir, who said he could not stop the opening of a private hotel as long as it fulfilled all the legal requirements, noted that he has every intention of attending the official opening on November 14, to which the Egyptians have objected. He also said that the Egyptian consul in Elat and other Egyptian officials have been invited.

The tourism minister said that the question of the opening has been "blown out of all proportion" by the Egyptians. "They saw it being built, why didn't they say anything?" he added. He described the opening as a non-political act which had no bearing on the outcome of the talks between Israel and Egypt.

Meanwhile, Joe Sultan, manager of the hotel, told THE POST that about 20 guests checked in yesterday, including tourists from Sweden and France, as well as Israelis. Within the next two weeks, he said, a few hundred are expected.

The hotel, he said, is functioning fully, with five restaurants all open. So far, the hotel has had no indication from the government that it should not go ahead with the formal opening, he added.

An official at the Sonesta chain's main office in Tel Aviv last night told THE POST that the company has been receiving inquiries from tourists and travel agencies abroad who had been told that the area was "closed to Israelis." These people are being reassured that there are no difficulties either for Israelis or foreign tourists staying in the hotel, the official said.

REPORTAGE ON ISRAELI-LEBANESE JOINT COMMITTEE

'Likely' To Meet Next Week

TA010816 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Nov 82 p 2

[Text] Israel, Lebanon and the U.S. are expected this week to decide the membership of their delegations to the joint military committee which will discuss security arrangements for south Lebanon.

The committee is likely to hold its first meeting next week.

According to an authoritative source in Jerusalem, the committee will be largely based on the body which has been in operation with the participation of the three countries during most of the Peace for Galilee Operation. This body met in the B'abda suburb near Beirut, but it is not clear whether the security arrangements committee will have its permanent seat there.

Most committee members will be military men, but Israel will also send diplomatic representatives, while Lebanon has already said it will send a judge as a legal adviser.

An authoritative source in Jerusalem said that no disagreement between Lebanon and Israel was anticipated about the form and name of the committee, while the substance and course of the talks were unclear for the time being.

Schiffer Details Dispute

TA020747 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir will meet U.S. Ambassador Morris Draper at noon to discuss the arrangements in Lebanon. Last night, the prime minister convened a meeting at his Knesset office with the participation of the foreign and defense ministers and defense establishment figures to discuss and assess the situation in Lebanon.

Earlier, Draper conferred with Hanan Bar-On foreign ministry deputy director general and Maj Gen Avraham Tamir the defense minister's aide. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports on the contacts on the Lebanese issue.

[Schiffer -- live] Questions concerning the framework of the discussions and the level of the representatives who will participate in the talks over the security arrangements are still the main topic in the talks with Draper. The Israeli side has expressed its absolute opposition to holding debates with a Lebanese military committee at the level of liaison officers and with U.S. mediation. Israel insists on joint, direct talks within a combined military-political committee formed by representatives of both countries.

The reason for this demand [Drisha] is that Israel is seeking to discuss comprehensive arrangements, first and foremost abolishing the state of war between the two countries, to be followed by a debate on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and an agreement on the means of ensuring that the Syrians and the terrorists do not return to that country. Only at the end of the process, does the Israeli side proposed to discuss the security arrangements to be established in the 50-km strip along the northern border.

Ambassador Draper is still pleading with the Israeli side not to make things difficult for Amin al-Jumayyil and to drop the demand that a joint committee be established. A figure close to the negotiations, which have yet to begin, told me last night that at times it appears that Draper is Al-Jumayyil's representative to the talks rather than the representative of the U.S. superpower which sent Marines to Beirut and which has the power to influence the Lebanese president.

To sum up, the Lebanese Government is ready to discuss security arrangements within the framework of a military committee of liaison officers, not directly, but through the mediation of a third party, the United States. Israel is firmly opposed to this, thus the freeze in the negotiations. Today an attempt will be made to unravel this tangled knot.

Shamir, Draper Meet

TA021204 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1143 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer outside the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] The meeting between Foreign Minister Shamir and Morris Draper ended a short time ago. Draper will now return to Beirut to continue the contacts, because the negotiations over the arrangements in Lebanon have not yet begun. Israel is opposed to the formula proposed by Lebanon: A military subcommittee that would discuss the border between the two countries and the security arrangements. Israel wants a high-ranking military-political committee established to discuss all the issues pertaining to the security arrangements. However, in the meantime, let us listen to Draper's remarks upon emerging from the Foreign Ministry:

[Begin recording -- in English] I think we're making progress on overcoming the obstacles to negotiations, to talk that will ultimately bring about the withdrawal of all foreign military forces from Lebanon -- that's a common objective, it seems to me, of the United States, Israel and the Lebanese people. [end recording]

Draper is optimistic progress has been made in the talks and Israel and the United States share a common objective in pulling all foreign forces out of Lebanon. However, we will have to translate this optimism into practical language and find a way to establish a committee in which Israel will agree to participate.

Meanwhile, it has also been learned that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir made it clear to Morris Draper that Israel would not agree to a multinational force stationed in Lebanon that includes representatives of countries hostile to Israel or countries that have no relations with Israel. In response to Shamir's remarks, Draper explained that the United States has appealed to various countries to send troops to the multinational force, but that all these were European countries that maintain diplomatic relations with Israel.

MOROCCAN TROOPS IN MULTINATIONAL FORCE OPPOSED

TA020818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Israel would be opposed to including Moroccan Army units in the multinational force in Lebanon, but would be prepared to consider a proposal that Egyptian forces participate in this force because Cairo has signed a peace treaty with Israel. This was stated by high-ranking Israeli officials to our political correspondent.

JOURNALISTS ALLOWED TO VISIT CAPTIVE IDF SOLDIERS

TA311923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The terrorists today allowed journalists to visit six of the eight captive Israelis kidnapped about 2 months ago in the Bhamdun area. They are being held in a Fatah camp near Barr Ilyas, some 50 km east of Beirut. Another two are being held, according to the correspondents, by the Popular Front General Command, but the reporters did not manage to see them.

The reporters who visited the captives said their names were: Avraham Kornfeld and Eliyahu Abutbul from 'Akko; Rif'at Hasan and Avraham Mintabasky from Holon; Re'uven Kohen from Ashdod and "Azri'el Gilbo'a from Tel Aviv. The remaining two soldiers being held by another terrorist organization are, according to the report, Yosef Graft and Nisim Salim. Red Cross personnel also visited the captives. According to a report by a correspondent for Monte Carlo radio, Eliyahu Abutbul has recovered from a shoulder injury which he got while trying to escape.

Monte Carlo Report

JN311845 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1705 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Telephone dispatch by Monte Carlo radio correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris -- recorded]

[Text] In accordance with special permission granted to me by Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, I was able today to visit six Israeli prisoners who are being detained by Fatah somewhere in the Lebanese Al-Biqa'. When I arrived in the Al-Biqa' region, I heard the sound of two large explosions in the air. When I looked up, I saw two Syrian surface-to-air missiles barely miss an Israeli plane. The angle of the tails of the missiles clearly showed that they had been launched from Syria. I then entered a Fatah military camp and met with the six Israeli prisoners in a big hall. I was able to talk to them in complete freedom. The Fatah officer who accompanied me stood with his men at a distance. They did not interfere in the conversation.

One of the prisoners spoke English fairly well. He assumed the role of an interpreter between me and his comrades. The prisoners told me that they were being well treated, that they were in constant contact with each other. They did not complain of any ill treatment.

When I insisted on obtaining an answer from them as to their needs, their leader, Sgt Resuven Kohen, aged 21, from Ashdod, said: We want only to be free. We hope that our government will do something to get us released.

I asked them about their opinion of their war in Lebanon. Eliyahu Abutbul said: When we entered Lebanon, our commanders filled our hearts with hatred toward the Palestinians. When we were captured, we were surprised to find that the Palestinians did not hate the Jews as a people, but were even ready to live with us. Now, we did not quite agree with our government as to the benefits of this evil war in Lebanon. He said: We have everything we need: food, drink, medical care and reading material. We even have a transistor radio.

On 4 September, these prisoners were members of an eight-member Israeli patrol in Bhamdun. They were surprised by a Palestinian patrol of only 3 men. They and their weapons were captured and they were led to Al-Biqa'. On the way, Abutbul attempted to escape and was shot in the left shoulder. He has now completely recovered.

Today, for the first time Fatah allowed a Red Cross committee to visit the Israeli prisoners. This was accomplished by an agreement preceded by prolonged negotiations.

Abu Jihad did not allow the Red Cross committee to visit them until it obtained a list from the Israeli side of Palestinian prisoners in the Ansar camp in south Lebanon.

The Red Cross committee asked the prisoners to fill in special forms, handed them letters from their families in Israel and received replies to these letters. The committee included a foreign doctor who examined all of them, one by one. I heard him tell his colleague: They are all in good condition.

Lt Col Abu Ziyad, a Fatah officer who accompanied the committee, rejected a Red Cross request to meet with the prisoners privately, because this was not included in the agreement and he had no instructions to this effect. Abu Ziyad wondered whether Israel allows Red Cross missions to meet privately with Palestinian prisoners in Israel. The Red Cross envoy requested that he be allowed to visit the prisoners again. Abu Ziyad said that this would be possible if new agreements were reached in this regard. Abu Ziyad wondered whether it would be possible to observe on the faces of the Palestinian prisoners the same cheerfulness and healthy appearance which the Red Cross committee had noticed on the faces of the Israeli prisoners detained by Fatah.

I asked the Red Cross envoy about his impression of the meeting with the Israeli prisoners. He said: What the Red Cross committee did was very important. I found no complaints among the prisoners about sleep or food. I emerged with the impression that a lot of time and negotiation will be needed before an exchange of prisoners takes place between Israel and Fatah, which is expected to demand the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for the Israeli prisoners.

IDF MEDIATES CEASE-FIRE IN AL-QIR'AWN AREA

TA011410 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1348 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Our correspondent Menahem Horowitz reports that over the last few days the IDF has deployed and brought a cessation of shooting between various sects in villages north of al-Qir'awn lake. The clashes, against an intersectarian background, broke out over the last few days in these villages and attempts by local notables to calm feelings down were in vain. IDF officers mediated between the sides and brought about a cease-fire.

IDF ENTERS LEBANESE TOWNS TO STOP CLASHES

TA020759 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 2 Nov 82 p 3

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Metulla -- The Israel Defence Forces yesterday entered several Christian and Druse villages in Lebanon to stop the exchanges of fire between the two religious communities. The IDF units used loudspeakers to call on both sides to cease fire.

In Baydur and Kayfun, southeast of Beirut, there was fighting on Sunday which left one Druse and three Phalange soldiers dead.

Yesterday, around noon, the Druse fired mortars and bazookas at Phalange positions in Al-Kahluniyah and Ba'lshmayh, and at a Phalange vehicle south of 'Alayh, injuring one soldier. Shooting was also reported at Sufar and Ras al-Harf.

IDF sources said that several mortar rounds fell near Israeli positions at Al-Kahluniyah. Fire was not returned.

The Lebanese Army yesterday reinforced its troops in these villages.

VEHICLE FIRED AT IN S. LEBANON; ONE WOUNDED

TA011935 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1925 GMT 1 Nov 82

[IDF spokesman announcement]

[Text] [no dateline as received] Light weapons fire was fired from an ambush this evening at an Israeli civilian vehicle traveling north of An-Nabatiyah. One of the vehicle's passengers was slightly wounded, and he received medical treatment at the scene. IDF soldiers have begun a search for the attackers.

STRIKES, DISTURBANCES REPORTED IN E. JERUSALEM

TA020751 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 0730 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] Jerusalem, 2 Nov (ITIM) -- A partial commercial and school strike began this morning in east Jerusalem to mark the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration. The ITIM correspondent reports that reinforced police units and border police are patrolling the east Jerusalem area and the neighborhoods to its north to prevent disturbances.

The ITIM correspondent in Jerusalem reports that at around 0845, two youths, who had been setting tires on fire in the village of 'Anabta, north of Jerusalem, were arrested. A few minutes later, youths hurled stones near the Dung Gate in the old city of Jerusalem. There were no casualties.

Security forces are continuing to patrol the streets of east Jerusalem and are providing security to shopkeepers who opened their stores.

More Disturbances Reported

TA020830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] There are disturbances in various towns of Judaea and Samaria, mainly stoning incidents, to mark the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration.

Near the village of Al-Khidr in the Bethlehem District, a passenger on an Israeli bus was slightly injured when the bus was pelted with rocks. There were student demonstrations in Ramallah. In Nabulus, demonstrators were dispersed with tear gas, and youths hurled stones at shops to force businessmen to stage a commercial strike, but commercial life is reportedly proceeding as usual. This has been reported by our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that there is a full school strike and a partial commercial strike in east Jerusalem.

DRORI TESTIFIES BEFORE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

TA311154 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Report by Ehud Klausner -- live]

[Text] Maj Amir Drori's testimony to tbe commission of inquiry was conducted amid rather intensive interrogation by the committee members. By the questions they asked, one could see they were in possession of a great deal of material and that they were quoting from it or citing remarks they had heard during the investigation. They seemed to be familiar with the issue at hand, down to minor details.

General Drori described all the events prior to the entry into West Beirut. He was asked about the first time the Phalangists were mentioned and he said he had first learned that the Phalangists would enter the camps, within the general entry into West Beirut, when he and the chief of staff met with Phalangist commanders and he heard the chief of staff telling them that during the general break-in they would also enter West Beirut.

He was queried at length about the fear that the Phalangists would harm civilians and apprehensions voiced by officers, if such apprehensions were voiced -- and by the remarks of the committee members it appeared that they were hinting at such an occurrence -- before and during the entry about a possible attack on civilians. General Drori said he had harbored great fear and that he was particularly troubled over the Phalangists' performance and whether they would carry out the mission entrusted to them. He said that experiences involving cooperation in the past had shown that they do whatever they want to do and that they do not always carry out the things agreed upon.

As for fears that they would harm civilians, Drori said that wherever they had operated jointly with the IDF no extraordinary events had occurred; there had only been isolated unusual incidents which did not expand into a general occurrence. He also pointed out that their fighting ethics were not similar to those of the IDF.

At this point, Maj Gen Yona Efrat, apparently quoting from some testimony he had before him, asked Major General Drori: Were you not troubled by -- and you said as much -- the fact that elsewhere they had wanted to slaughter everybody? Major General Drori did not reply precisely to this question. He explained that the Phalangists' conduct had been generally known, but he could not recall that specific remark. He merely said he had told officers who had voiced such fears that we know the Phalangists and that they had so far not done such things when we were close to them. We had spoken to them, we had warned them and we assumed and hoped these warnings would not be in vain. He also noted that in one instance, prior to and during the entry of West Beirut, he had told Phalangist commanders that their men should behave like human beings and should not harm women, children and old people.

[Announcer] According to his testimony, who briefed the Phalangists before they entered the camps?

[Klausner] This issue has not been raised so far. It should be pointed out that only 2 hours of the testimony, until about 1100, were public and General Drori is currently elaborating further behind closed doors. He also said that initial reports began arriving on Friday at noon, on the eve of Rosh Hashana. There were several general hints: A woman emerging from the camps said Phalangists had beaten her with the butts of their guns; they had not raped or mugged her, but only beaten her up. There were various examples of this kind. A senior officer in the field had told him that he had a bad feeling and General Drori decided to put an end to the Phalangist operation. He ordered them to stop and leave.

[Question] When?

[Answer] On Friday at noon. He appeared before them. The chief of staff had been scheduled to arrive and he also briefed him.

[Question] To whom did he issue the order?

[Answer] He issued the order to a staff officer who served as liaison between the Phalangists and the IDF. He ordered him to stop them, but, Drori said, the decision had not stemmed from any specific reports but from a general feeling that something was going wrong. In fact, initial reports that something was happening reached General Drori the following day, on Saturday at noon. The specific report of a massacre reached him only on Saturday afternoon.

On Friday, Drori reported to the chief of staff his decision to stop the Phalangists' operation. Drori said: I told the chief of staff that I thought the Phalangists had perhaps gone overboard. As may be recalled, the defense minister testified that the chief of staff had told him that the Phalangists had overdone it. This had been stated by Major General Drori. He also postponed the entry of the main Phalangist force -- which we also saw on television -- of tanks, armored personnel carriers and cannons and prevented them from going in.

That same Friday afternoon, he met Lebanese Army officers. As in previous meetings, he asked them to enter the camps. Drori quoted remarks he had made to a very senior Lebanese officer: We will not go in, and even if you do not go in, you know who will enter: You are Lebanese; you know them: you know what might happen.

[Question] But at the same time the Phalangists were...

[Answer -- interrupts] They were inside at the time. This he linked with a meeting held while they were inside, but he noted that this was the spirit of things in additional meetings with members of the Lebanese Army. After that meeting, he conferred with the Phalangist representatives, including the commander in charge of the force that was inside.

He was extensively interrogated by commission members on whether the subject of the massacre was broached at that time. He was asked: So, if you stopped the operation, were you not asked at the meeting why you stopped it? Did you not attempt to explain why you halted our actions? He had no explanations.

General Drori did not exactly remember those specific questions, but the commission members really pressed the issue, telling him: After all, you stopped the operation and gave the order to halt, so did they not ask you: Why did you order a halt? Did you not say: Look, we are apprehensive in view of things that have happened: He said: No. The commander there reported that there were casualties and that the fighting was tough. He was asked to tell whether he had asked that commander directly: Did you do anything in the camps? He did not reply.

One ought to point out in regard to the testimony given by General Drori that, in general, unlike the testimony the defense minister gave, which as we remember was full of details, General Drori testified as though he was trying to describe something taking place right now, without relying on newspapers, briefings or reports that he obtained later. He also tried to portray things as though he remembered them, but he did not remember a lot of things including many contacts, meetings, events or orders.

In answer to a question, he pointed out that today he knows a lot more than he did then, but that he did not run a precise briefing. It was clear to me, Drori said, that the events there had to be investigated, but if I conduct one of my own it may perhaps look bad and unnatural, and people might think that I was trying to collect data and make deals. That is why his testimony was, how should I put it, not exactly hesitant, but not very detailed, as he could not remember many things. Now as he is testifying in camera, he may perhaps elaborate on various details which we could not hear.

[Question] Did he use documents, maps or photographs?

[Answer] He had a piece of paper in front of him, but I think he got from it primarily times of meetings, which were very numerous, trying to recall them. Next to him sat the director of his office and another officer, but he did not come armed with graphs, maps, photographs or other documents like some other earlier witnesses who appeared before the commission.

[Question] Was he asked whether it could have been possible to view the area from the IDF's forward command post?

[Answer] Certainly. he himself said that the moment on that Friday afternoon when he arrived and the commander told him that he was a bit worried, they stood on the famous roof that was mentioned so often, and he observed the area, and that another man who was with him watched the area for 30 minutes. He was a professional. Additional observations were also carried out, but he could not see anything. He was asked if he did not stop refugees fleeing, and he said that this could not be indicative at all of whether or not something was happening in the area.

IDF OFFICER REPORTED MASSACRE FRIDAY MORNING

TA312018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] An Israeli tank officer, whose unit was deployed around the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps, today testified before the commission of inquiry on the Beirut massacre, that on Friday morning [17 September] he saw Phalangists killing men, women and children and that he reported this to his superiors.

When he first reported these events, he was told: We know. We do not want them to do these things, but we are not intervening. The officer, Avi Grabovsky, said that he saw a bulldozer enter one of the camps, and said that its operator openly acknowledged that he had come to cover bodies in order to hide them. The lieutenant said that he reported this to the battalion commander, who, he said, told him that he could report this later to the brigade commander. The brigade commander told him in their meeting that this matter was known and that it was being handled.

TWO DOCTORS, NURSE TESTIFY BEFORE COMMISSION

TA011527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] For the first time, foreigners testified before the statutory commission of inquiry today. Two British doctors and a U.S. nurse, who served voluntarily in the 'Azza Hospital in the Sabra camp in Beirut during the massacre, testified.

Our correspondent Ehud Klausner reports:

[Klausner -- live or recorded] The three described the events in the hospital from Wednesday, 5 September before the IDF entry into West Beirut, up to the Saturday, which was the first day of Rosh Hashana. They along with another 19 foreign doctors and nurses remained throughout those days inside the hospital itself and in fact did not know at all what was happening in the camps themselves. The first witness, a Jewish nurse, Ellen Siegel, did not even see the wounded who arrived at the hospital. She only pointed out that, on Thursday morning, the hospital filled up with about 2,000 refugees who had fled to it for fear of being hurt. She said she had heard many of them crying: Phalangists, Haddad, Israel, and repeated this many times.

The doctor, an orthopedic surgeon name Swee Chai Ang, was far more involved. She treated many scores of wounded, almost all of them, according to her, women and children.

On Friday morning she also counted about 30 bodies of women and children in the hospital's morgue. She photographed those bodies and promised to hand over the photos, along with other pictures she took, to the commission. Paul Morris, a British doctor who, like the lady doctor, reached Beirut through a Christian organization, testified that he and his colleagues had been aware of the wounded who reached the hospital and they treated them. They also looked after the refugees. However, they did not know what was happening outside, in the camps, at all. They did not know even by Saturday morning that in fact a massacre was taking place. He said that all the people who reached the hospital constantly mentioned the Al-Khatib, the Phalangists. All three put no blame on the IDF or on Israeli soldiers, but they were uncertain of the identity of the perpetrators of the massacre in Beirut.

SHARON, SHAMIR REACH AGREEMENT ON POST-BEGIN RULE

TA311028 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 31 Oct 82 pp 1, 7

[Report by Shlomo Naqdimon]

[Excerpts] "Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon agreed between them that, if and when Begin retires from political life Sharon would support Shamir's candidacy for the prime minister's office while Shamir would support Sharon's continued service as defense minister," said MK Me'ir Shitrit, who told me he had played the role of go-between in the agreement reached between the two men. the agreement between Sharon and Shamir was worked out before the massacre in Beirut, but those events have not changed it.

Shitrit added he was sure that Finance Minister Yoram Aridor was an ally of Shamir and Sharon. Shitrit said that the problem today lies in the position of Deputy Prime minister David Levi. He intends to speak to Levi to make him part of the "leading quartet."

In response to a question, it was stated by the foreign minister's office that the entire issue as presented by MK Shitrit is irrelevant since there is a prime minister who is performing appropriately. Indeed, here and there leaders have been talking about the situation in Herut and it is only natural for political leaders to exchange words on such an issue. However, the issue in question has not been discussed seriously because there has been no need for it.

Figures in the defense minister's office last night described Shitrit as a clever man seeking the party's benefits. They noted that it was a fact that there was cooperation between the two ministers and that the two ministers maintained regular contacts.

LIKUD EXECUTIVE MOVES TO ENFORCE VOTING DISCIPLINE

TA011651 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1530 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Report from the Knesset by Gil'ad Mishori -- recorded]

[Text] The anger in coalition circles over the way four coalition MK's voted last Wednesday on the bill to abolish theater censorship, was vented today in a series of steps the coalition's Executive decided to take in the future against coalition members who violate coalition voting discipline.

First, it was decided not to approve motions to the agenda or private members' bills submitted by these MK's. This clause has already been used against three of the four: Dror Zeigerman, Ehud Olmert and Mikha'el Kleiner. Motions to the agenda that they submitted have been rejected. Second, it was decided to keep the MK's from participating in Knesset committees.

The third step, reserved for especially serious cases, is a public call by the coalition to the rebellious MK to return his Knesset seat to his faction.

The coalition will soon hold a meeting with the prime minister on this subject. Coalition Chairman Avraham Shapira attacked, apart from the behavior of MK's, the behavior of Cabinet ministers, especially, he said the Likud ministers. In private talks with Menahem Begin, Shapira said that he had learned that the time has not yet arrived to fight for succession. Begin will remain at the head of the government for many more years, Shapira said.

Concerning a second television channel, Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori told the coalition Executive that what was delaying the submission of a draft bill by the government on this matter, was the struggle for control over the second channel. Education Minister Zvulun Hammer wants the second channel to be under his control, Tzipori said, adding that if the intention is to make it like the channel he already controls, it is better not to have a second channel at all.

Ben-Tziyon Rubin remarked: So, perhaps we should move on immediately to a third channel. Shapira claimed that even if the Cabinet reached agreement on this matter, coalition agreement would also be required. Accordingly, a four-man committee was set up comprising MK's Shapira, Dan Tikhom, Roni Milo and Avraham Melamed to deal with the matter. Only after this committee reaches its conclusions will the second channel bill be submitted for approval in the Knesset plenum.

MAPAM DECIDES TO POSTPONE PARTY CONVENTION

TA311710 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1545 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] The MAPAM Central Committee today decided to postpone the party's convention in order to prevent tremors within the alignment. MAPAM Secretary Victor Shem-Tov said that there are cracks in the coalition, and that this is not the time for tremors in the Alignment that will prevent us from reaping the fruits of those cracks.

ALGERIA

FOREIGN MINISTRY PRAISES SDAR'S OAU DECISION

LD011024 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Following the SDAR's decision to abstain voluntarily from participating in the next OAU summit conference, the official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has made the following statement:

The SDAR, a member with full rights in the OAU, has declared that it will voluntarily abstain from participating in the 19th OAU summit conference. Thus, the SDAR has given proof of its highly responsible spirit and sharp awareness of the fundamental interests of the African community. Such a stance is fresh evidence of the SDAR's deep attachment to the OAU as an instrument for the complete liberation of the African Continent and as a framework for the expression of natural solidarity with national liberation movements.

The SDAR's decision comes at a time when attempts to suffocate the peoples' ambitions for struggle for their national rights, especially in Namibia, Palestine and Western Sahara, are redoubled. This decision should prompt all African states to redouble their efforts to find a just and final political solution to the Western Sahara problem through direct negotiations between Morocco and the SDAR with respect for the OAU Charter.

LIBYA

JANA: OUEDDEI FORMS GOVERNMENT IN CHAD

LD312104 Tripoli JANA in English 1935 GMT 31 Oct 82

[Text] (Barbai) (northern Chad) Muharram 14, Oct. 31, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Political and military officials who had earlier formed the interim Chadian Government of National Unity, have now established a temporary political administration called the national peace government. The 15-men government is headed by Goukouni Oueddei and Oueddei's deputy is the father of Abdel Kader Kamougue, commander of the southern forces.

The government of national peace was formed during a meeting held in the northern Chadian region of (Barbai) on October 27 and 28.

Following the meeting, a press statement was issued saying those in attendance studied recent developments in Chad and affirmed the determination to carry out unified political and military action under the new government whose members are to be revealed at a later date.

The press statement outlined the following freedom fighting tasks:

1. Fighting the unjust and terroristic regime of the forces of the north in a bid to bring back peace and unity to Chad.

2. Unification of the fighting forces under a national army independent from political organisations.

3. Organising all Chadian citizens opposed to the creation of a dictatorial government in Chad.

Those convened in the meeting also decided on establishing a general staff command to coordinate military operations.

The press statement affirmed that the national peace government under Goukouni Oueddei is intent on realising peace and democracy in Chad. The new government also appealed to the Chadian people to strive for unity and show support for the new administration to put an end to the tragedy caused by the Hissein Habre clique and their allies.

The press statement also appealed to all African and friendly countries not to recognise the blood-stained authority of Hissein Habre, and to stand beside the Chadian people in their struggle on all levels.

It affirmed that the Chadian people support their legitimate officials in accordance with the 18th Organisation of African Unity's summit resolutions in Nairobi and the meeting of African heads of state in Tripoli last August.

Those convened in the meeting further affirmed their adherence to the Lagos agreement for realising true peace and justice in Chad.

On the other hand, the new chief-of-staff sent a message to the Chadian Army in which he praised the wide scale rejection by the armed forces of the northern forces' dominance and their opting for the legitimate national peace government's officials.

He also reiterated the determination of the army to defeat the enemies of the Chadian people and liberate Chad from slavery and dictatorship.

He added, addressing the army: "You will be the Chadian liberation forces who will be the backbone for the launching of settlement activities and executing the main objective, which is to grant the Chadian people their basic rights, after facing the threat of mass liquidation and the horrors of fascism at the hands of the northern forces. Hissein Habre has placed the Chadian people under the regime of fear, a regime backed by the enemies of a free Africa and which refused all proposals for a settlement or reconciliation in order to realise security and stability for the Chadian people."

He also confirmed the Chadian people's determination to step up the struggle against Habre's forces who symbolize violence and who should be crushed by fiercer violence because the time has come to put an end to the barbaric crimes and inhuman actions.

The national liveration forces are a creation of the people's will and will from now on say no to injustice, dictatorship and U.S. imperialism, he added.

The chief-of-staff then warned the northern forces against continuing their massacres, theft, extortion and illegal seizure of the citizens properties and said that from now on, the objective should be one, that of liberating Chad, securing freedom, democracy and justice and preserving by all means the independence of the Chadian people.

He added: "You will be the fighters for freedom in order to restore and ensure the democratic system and wipe the tears from the eyes of the widows and orphans who have not been spared by the northern forces. In the light of this unity we shall achieve victory."

Mr. Goukouni Oueddei had delivered a speech at the beginning of the meeting, following his appointment at the head of the government, in which he reiterated the firm determination to restore freedom and crush the enemies of the Chadian people who have shed the blood of its innocent children.

MOROCCO

LEBANON'S AL-JUMAYYIL VISITS, MAKES STATEMENT

LD012044 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil today paid a working visit to Morocco at the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II. The 7-hour visit is the first of its kind by President al-Jumayyil to an Arab country since he became president.

On leaving Rabat for Beirut this evening, President al-Jumayyil said he had found complete identity of views between his majesty and himself regarding the subjects discussed.

In a statement at the airport, President al-Jumayyil greeted his majesty. He said:

[Begin recording] [Al-Jumayyil] In Morocco, we are in a sister country which is dear to the heart of every Lebanese. His Majesty King Hassan II is like an elder brother to every Lebanese and in these circumstances in particular, he is making well-appreciated efforts to rescue and to assist Lebanon. In the name of the Lebanese people, I should like to express profound thanks to his majesty who extended this invitation to visit dear sister Morocco. I am sorry this visit is a brief one, but circumstances have made this necessary. It will not be the last visit to this country which I love.

[Reporter] Mr President, could you tell us something about the talks you had this morning with his majesty? Could you also tell us something about the Lebanese view of the success achieved by the Arab committee, led by his majesty, in Washington?

[Answer] Naturally, all our discussions were about the Fes summit results and about the seven-man committee headed by His Majesty King Hassan II. The discussion was about all these matters. There was full coordination of views between myself and his majesty the king on all the points which we discussed. We began by visiting Morocco in order to learn from his majesty about the talks he had with officials in the United States in the name of the Arab group. I also informed his majesty of the talks I had in the United States and in Europe, as there is a connection, integration and harmony between the task which I carried out and the task which his majesty carried out nearly 1 week ago. It was natural that we embarked on an Arab tour in order to learn about the task entrusted to his majesty by the Arab states, and by the Fes summit in particular. I was very pleased by this visit because of the clear vision I discerned in his majesty about the Lebanese crisis in particular and the common vision of Arab issues which we all are experiencing. [end recording]

LIBERIA

COUNCIL GIVEN LIST OF CONVICTED EMBEZZLERS

AB012002 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Applying Head of State Doe's directives, a complete list of all individuals convicted of embezzling or misappropriating government funds have been submitted to the People's Redemption Council [PRC] to facilitate their immediate transfer to Camp Belle Yella in Loffa County. According to the NEW LIBERIAN newspaper, quoting Justice Minister Councillor Winston Tubman, the names include former government officials convicted for their involvement in a $76,000 ADP [expansion unknown] case and that of the NPA [National Planning Agency] case involving more than $75,000. Others, he said, are those self-employed citizens who were convicted of embezzling state funds for nonexistent land at the new university site in (Fendall).

DOE LIFTS BAN ON NATIONAL SOCCER TEAM

AB011928 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Head of State Commander in Chief Doe has lifted the ban on the national football team, the Lone Stars. The Head of State lifted the ban today following a soccer match between the Lone Stars, the Junior Lone Stars and a joint PRC [People's Redemption Council]-Cabinet team at the Barclay training center in Monrovia. The game ended seven in favor of the Junior Lone Stars and three for the Cabinet-PRC joint team. According to LINA [Liberian News Agency] correspondent (Delade Denot), the Head of State said players should take up their respective places of employment and hoped such action on the part of the Lone Stars would not be repeated. Details are still coming in.

AID NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRG BEGIN 1 NOVEMBER

AB012134 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The Government of Liberia has identified eight priority projects in different sectors of the economy for funding by the FRG. The proposed package contains a number of new projects which are crucial to the nation's future development. It also includes certain on-going activities which must be continued through additional funding.

The projects were identified today at the start of a 5-day negotiation between a six-man top-level German technical team who arrived here last Friday and the Government of Liberia. The National Investment Commission of the Finance Ministry is being used as venue for the negotiation. (?The package) to be negotiated for was identified from the agriculture sector, trade, forestry, works and (?timber), electricity, mine and energy and communications and industry.

NIGERIA

46 PEOPLE APPEAR IN KADUNA COURT FOR RIOTING

AB011820 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] In Kaduna State, 46 people believed to be religious fanatics appeared before the Kaduna Chief Magistrate Court today for allegedly engaging themselves in an unlawful assembly, rioting, and disturbance of public peace in the state capital over the weekend. According to the prosectuion, last Friday afternoon the state commissioner of police reported at the state CID [Criminal Investigation Department] with the suspects assembled at the Rigata village.

Armed with daggers and cutlasses they started rioting from the village and spread to other parts of the Kaduna metropolis. The prosecution explained that, as a result, many innocent people lost their lives. They included an assistant commissioner of police, a police sergeant and some civilians.

All the suspects, however, pleaded not guilty to the charges. The prosecution therefore asked for more time to apprehend other suspects believed to be at large. The accused, who are mostly foreigners, were denied bail since the Kudli group can put up another resistance.

The presiding magistrate, Chief Olahi Muntada Kumasi, told the court that the suspects would be thoroughly screened to identify those who participated in the disturbance. He said those found to have engaged themselves in the nefarious activities would be severely punished. The magistrate said it is regrettable to note that among the Muslim African countries, only Nigeria is riddled with such murderous religious riots by fanatics. He then ordered the suspects to remain in prison custody until the 19th of this month when the case would be heard.

POLICE INVESTIGATING CAUSE OF KANO RIOT

AB011753 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Religious organizations in the country have been urged to enlighten their followers on the need for peace and tolerance. In a broadcast over the recent riots by members of the Muslim Students Society in Kano, the state police commissioner, Alhaji Sannie Ali, said investigations were being conducted to determine the real cause of the rampage in which church buildings were destroyed. Alhaji Sannie, however, said the situation had been put under control.

Meanwhile, roadblocks mounted by the armed policemen barricading all the roads leading to a number of churches and mosques in (Keji) area have been removed and the streets were now busy. However, police patrol was being maintained in the case of any eventuality.

In Kaduna, life has also returned to normal after the religious fanaticism had been crushed. The uprising, which started on Friday, claimed a number of lives, including those of an assistant commissioner of police and a sergeant. Units of the police had been patrolling the streets, while police checkpoints along the roads had been strengthened.

PAPERS SAY 'DRASTIC' ACTION NEEDED TO HALT RIOTS

AB011224 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Nov 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Last week's religious disturbances in Maiduguri and Kaduna is discussed by THE NEW NIGERIAN, THE NIGERIAN HERALD, THE NIGERIAN TRIBUNE and THE PUNCH. The papers agree that something drastic has to be done immediately to stop this religious intolerance from spreading and to avoid plunging the nation into a terrible situation. THE NEW NIGERIAN feels that the violence was caused by the religious intolerance fanned by influential people who would rather destroy what they cannot have. THE HERALD, on its part, wants religious organizations with suspected fanatical postures proscribed or their activities monitored. THE NIGERIAN TRIBUNE says the situation calls into question the competence of all the intelligence services in the country.

THE PUNCH, however, believes that some people are merely using religion to fan the embers of hate and disunity in the country. Finally, the paper calls on both the Federal Government and security agencies in the country to quell once and for all the Maitasine Kingdom before it is too late.

THE DAILY SKETCH condemns in its entirety last week's arrest and detention of the NATIONAL CONCORD editor by the police. Their action, according to the paper, amounts to a threat to press freedom and democracy and should be condemned by lovers of liberty.

SHAGARI ASKS NIGERIANS TO 'ESCHEW VIOLENCE'

AB020722 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has again called on all Nigerians, irrespective of their political or religious affiliations, to work hard to ensure the survival of democracy in the country. He appealed to the people to eschew violence and all forms of victimization within the campaign and voting exercises in next year's elections. The president remarked that if the country's experiment in democracy and the rule of law failed, the effects would have far-reaching consequences, not only to Nigerians, but on the whole of Africa and the Third World.

President Shagari was speaking yesterday at the graduation of the senior executive course at the Institute of Policy and Strategic Studies School near Jos. He gave an assurance that the Federal Government will be able [words indistinct] its power to ensure justice and fairness to all. In this regard, the president urged political, religious and traditional leaders to assist his administration in its efforts to maintain rule of law.

LEGISLATORS ASK REVIEW OF ECOWAS TREATY

AB011526 Lagos NAN in English 1510 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] Kaduna, Nov 1 (NAN) -- The Kaduna House of Assembly today passed a motion calling on the Federal Government to review Nigeria's commitment to the treaty of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Moving the motion, Alhaji Ali Danhassan, NPN [National Party of Nigeria]-Tundunwada, said that it was necessary to check the movement of ECOWAS citizens in the wake of religious riots in some parts of the country.

He contended that most of the religious fanatics were not Nigerians and that they were in Nigeria in accordance with the provisions of the ECOWAS treaty.

In his contribution, Alhaji Sani Zakka, NPN-Safana, called for the introduction of identity cards for all Nigerian citizens.

He said that village and district heads should be utilised in checking the movement of aliens.

SOUTH AFRICA

CP 'TOTALLY REJECTS' UN RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA

MB020807 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] The South African Conservative Party [CP] totally rejects the UN resolution on Namibia which calls for an internationally supervised election.

Deputy leader of the CP, Connie Mulder, who was addressing a pre-byelection meeting in Walvis Bay, says the referendum on Namibia's future should take place before any change of status in the territory.

He said the CP stands by the principle that Walvis Bay will always remain an integral part of South Africa.

BUTHELEZI EXPLAINS U.S. MEETING WITH SOVIETS

MB020907 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 2 Nov 82

[Text] KwaZulu's chief minister, Gatsha Buthelezi, has explained why he met with Soviet diplomats in Washington. Buthelezi has just returned from a trip to the United States. Carmen Ricard reports:

"Open communications must be maintained with the world's superpowers, and whichever way you look at it, Russia cannot be ignored." These are some of the comments made by kwaZulu Chief Minister Gatsha Buthelezi yesterday, after his return from the United States where, with Dr Neil Aggett, he had been awarded the George Meany human rights award.

According to a Durban morning paper, Buthelezi was explaining his visit to the Russian Embassy while he was in Washington. During talks that had lasted for about 2 hours, he had gained the impression that the Soviets were well-informed of South African developments, he said. They had also asked for more details of the Buthelezi commission report, and they had discussed South Africa's application for a 1.2-billion rand loan from the International Monetary Fund.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA 'SHOCKED' BY REAGAN SOUTH AFRICA STATEMENT

MB011322 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] President Kaunda of Zambia says he is shocked by President Reagan's statement calling apartheid-ruled South Africa an ally of the United States. President Kaunda told an American magazine, NEWSWEEK, that the United States has been asked to further sanctions against the Pretoria regime, but ignored such calls. He referred to sanctions being applied against Poland by Western countries, including the United States, and wondered why similar sanctions cannot be applied against the Pretoria regime.

MINISTER SCORES IMF LOAN TO SOUTH AFRICA

MB020612 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 Nov 82

[Text] The Zambian Government has once again urged the International Monetary Fund not to grant racist South Africa the loan she requested, as it was to be used to intensify its aggressive policies in the southern African region.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Ottema Muskua, [name as heard] who was speaking when the new Chinese ambassador called on him, said an economically strong South Africa would step up its acts of aggression against independent neighboring states and strengthen apartheid at home. He urged China and other progressive forces in the United Nations to block the 1.7 billion-kwacha loan requested by South Africa if only to avoid creating another Israel in the region.